

Liberty Development and Production Plan

Public Hearings

Nuiqsut

2001

1 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
2 MINERALS MANAGEMENT SERVICE
3 ALASKA OCS REGION
4
5
6 **OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT - PUBLIC HEARING**
7 **DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT**
8 **FOR LIBERTY DEVELOPMENT AND PRODUCTION PLAN**
9 **OCS EIS/EA MMS 2001-001**

10
11 Nuiqsut, Alaska
12 Monday, March 19, 2001
13 7:30 o'clock p.m.
14

15 **MINERALS MANAGEMENT SERVICE PANEL MEMBERS**

16 Mr. Paul Stang, Regional Supervisor for Leasing
17 and Environment

18 Mr. Fred King, Project Manager

19 Mr. Albert Barros, Community Liaison

20 Mr. Richard Carl, Recorder
21

22
23 Translator services provided by Mabel Pederson, Barrow, Alaska,
24 and Leonard Lampe of Nuiqsut, Alaska.

25 Proceedings recorded by electronic sound recording. Transcript
produced by transcription service.

1 NUIQSUT, ALASKA - MONDAY, MARCH 19, 2001

2
3 (Tape No. 1 of 3)

4 (On record at 7:30 p.m.)

5 BILL: All of us have to pray.

6 (Prayer in Inupiat)

7 BILL: Amen.

8 GROUP COLLECTIVELY: Amen.

9 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, Bill.

10 (Side comments)

11 HEARING OFFICER: Okay. Good evening. My name is
12 Paul Stang. I'm with the Minerals Management Service, and
13 we're here to receive testimony on the Liberty Draft
14 Environmental Impact Statement.

15 TRANSLATOR: What was your name again?

16 HEARING OFFICER: Paul Stang, S-t-a-n-g.

17 TRANSLATOR: Well, I think I might sit closer to you,
18 then I could understand you better.

19 HEARING OFFICER: Okay. And then if somebody wants
20 to testify, maybe you could sit over there and translate with
21 them.

22 TRANSLATOR: Okay.

23 HEARING OFFICER: Good.

24 TRANSLATOR: Which one (indiscernible).

25 HEARING OFFICER: Okay. Here's my name, Paul Stang.

1 TRANSLATOR: Yeah, uh-huh (affirmative).

2 HEARING OFFICER: Okay?

3 TRANSLATOR: Okay. And you said you were here to do
4 what?

5 HEARING OFFICER: We're taking testimony.....

6 TRANSLATOR: Oh.

7 HEARING OFFICER:on the Liberty Draft
8 Environmental Impact Statement.

9 (Translation by Translator)

10 TRANSLATOR: What -- how are you going to work that
11 pipe on, on the bottom of it.

12 HEARING OFFICER: On the bottom? Buried.

13 (Translation by Translator)

14 (Comments from the audience)

15 (Translation by Translator)

16 TRANSLATOR: How many miles did you say.....

17 HEARING OFFICER: Five.

18 MR. KING: Five miles from the island to shore, and
19 it's about a mile from the island to the Boulder Patch area
20 where you're looking at.

21 (Translation by Translator)

22 (Comments from the audience)

23 (Translation by Translator)

24 MR. ITTA: Can I ask you who you guys are?

25 HEARING OFFICER: That's what I'm going to introduce

1 next. Right.

2 MR. ITTA: Okay.

3 HEARING OFFICER: So I would like to go ahead with
4 our introductions.

5 TRANSLATOR: Okay.

6 HEARING OFFICER: Good. On my left is Mike Holley
7 with the Army Corps of Engineers. And Fred King, who was over
8 there speaking, is also.....

9 MR. LOHMAN: Why don't you do one at a time?

10 HEARING OFFICER: All right. You want to do one at a
11 time? This is Mike Holley from the Army Corps of Engineers.

12 (Translation by Translator)

13 TRANSLATOR: Mike?

14 MR. HOLLEY: Holley.

15 TRANSLATOR: Holley.

16 HEARING OFFICER: Okay. And then next is Fred King.

17 TRANSLATOR: Fred King.

18 HEARING OFFICER: He's with Minerals Management
19 Service.

20 (Translation by Translator)

21 (Comment from the audience)

22 (Translation by Translator)

23 HEARING OFFICER: And Fred is the Project Manager for
24 the Liberty Environmental Impact Statement. Fred King. The
25 same one.

1 TRANSLATOR: Oh.

2 (Translation by Translator)

3 HEARING OFFICER: And the next person is Ted Rockwell
4 from EPA, Environmental Protection Agency.

5 (Translation by Translator)

6 TRANSLATOR: What was your name again?

7 HEARING OFFICER: Ted Rockwell.

8 TRANSLATOR: Ted Rockwell.

9 (Translation by Translator)

10 HEARING OFFICER: And the next person is Tom Lohman.
11 And Tom Lohman's from the North Slope Borough.

12 (Translation by Translator)

13 (Laughter)

14 TRANSLATOR: What's he do?

15 HEARING OFFICER: What does he do?

16 (Laughter)

17 TRANSLATOR: Yeah.

18 HEARING OFFICER: Tom Lohman keeps an eye on the rest
19 of us.

20 TRANSLATOR: Oh. Does he do a good job?

21 HEARING OFFICER: Yes.

22 (Translation by Translator)

23 HEARING OFFICER: And Molly's our Translator.

24 AUDIENCE COLLECTIVELY: Mabel.

25 TRANSLATOR: Mabel.

1 HEARING OFFICER: Mabel. Sorry.

2 (Laughter)

3 HEARING OFFICER: Mabel's our Translator.

4 TRANSLATOR: And who is that guy?

5 HEARING OFFICER: Oh, and this guy is Richard.

6 Richard is doing the transcription of this public hearing.

7 (Translation by Translator)

8 HEARING OFFICER: Richard Carl.

9 TRANSLATOR: Richard Carl.

10 (Comment from the audience)

11 (Translation by Translator)

12 MR. ITTA: Is he with a firm or.....

13 HEARING OFFICER: He's with his own company.

14 MR. KING: It's called Executary, out of Anchorage.
15 He's actually a court reporter.

16 HEARING OFFICER: A court reporter. But he's going
17 to do the transcript of this.

18 TRANSLATOR: Okay. What's his company?

19 HEARING OFFICER: His own company.

20 MR. KING: It's called Executary.

21 HEARING OFFICER: Executary.

22 (Translation by Translator)

23 HEARING OFFICER: Okay. Now, what we want to do is
24 take any public testimony, anything that you would like to say.

25 And if you want to give testimony, and some of you circled the

1 number, we would like you to come over here and give it at that
2 microphone so Richard can record it. Can you tell them?

3 (Translation by Translator)

4 HEARING OFFICER: One last thing I would like to say
5 is that this Environmental Impact Statement is prepared by the
6 Minerals Management Service, but the Corps of Engineers and EPA
7 are cooperating agencies in the preparation of the document.

8 (Translation by Translator)

9 HEARING OFFICER: Okay?

10 TRANSLATOR: Mm hmm (affirmative).

11 HEARING OFFICER: Good. So who would like to testify
12 first?

13 MR. LOHMAN: Can I say something first?

14 HEARING OFFICER: Certainly.

15 MR. LOHMAN: Thank you. Again, I'm Tom Lohman with
16 the North Slope Borough. A couple of things, just logistics-
17 wise. Do you know how many copies of this are in town or where
18 there are copies of this that were sent to town?

19 ROSEMARY: I know that part of one arrived at the
20 City. The other two portions of it -- I assume were the other
21 portions of it -- they're not there. There's only the one
22 part.

23 MR. LOHMAN: Yeah. This thing's in three volumes.
24 This is Volume 1. There's another, Volume 2, that has all the
25 tables, graphs, and maps, and then Volume 3. So this is the

1 document that's being discussed tonight, and the comment
2 deadline was extended from March 13th to April 13th at the
3 request of the Borough and the Alaska Eskimo Whaling
4 Commission. And so that's the comment deadline for written
5 comments on this document.

6 (Translation by Translator)

7 MR. LOHMAN: And so I guess point number one is we
8 need to get more copies of this document in town. And where
9 would you like them sent, to the Mayor's Office?

10 ROSEMARY: We had asked that they -- we get them sent
11 to the City. We asked that at least seven come to the City for
12 the City Council. But that's obviously not a very -- they said
13 there's a cost for the expense, but the expense to the
14 government is in our community.

15 MR. KING: Do you know who that request was made of?

16 ROSEMARY: It's been made in many of these meetings
17 that come up for all of these different various.....

18 HEARING OFFICER: Were some sent up here? Do you
19 know, Fred?

20 MR. KING: There were some sent. I had -- to the
21 best of my knowledge, we had not received any requests for
22 seven more. We can get on the phone and have them sent
23 tomorrow.

24 HEARING OFFICER: We will do that, have them sent
25 tomorrow.

1 MR. KING: And we can send them to the Mayor's
2 Office. I know there was also some sent to the community
3 library here.

4 ROSEMARY: I could check. The school library
5 might.....

6 MR. KING: Yeah.

7 ROSEMARY: I'm not aware of it being there.

8 MR. KING: I know they were sent to all of the
9 libraries here on the North Slope. That's part of our standard
10 mailings, so I know that was another one, but I'll get on the
11 phone tomorrow and have seven more sent.

12 HEARING OFFICER: We'll get them Express Mailed up
13 here.

14 MR. LOHMAN: And in addition to the three big, fat
15 volumes, there's also a stand-alone Executive Summary that
16 explains the document.....

17 HEARING OFFICER: Right.

18 MR. LOHMAN:the bigger document in shorter
19 form. I don't know if we have one floating around. If anybody
20 could.....

21 MR. FRANKLIN: I have one with me.

22 MR. LOHMAN: If Luke could just hold it up. That's
23 the Executive Summary, which is sort of a -- just what it
24 sounds like, a short summary of the rest of the document.

25 HEARING OFFICER: And there's a -- it's also on

1 compact disc. If you'd like that type, we can get you it on
2 compact disc too.

3 MR. LOHMAN: And again, the Borough will be providing
4 comments by the April 13th deadline. Hopefully, we'll have a
5 draft ready significantly before that to run by folks here. I
6 know AEWC is preparing comments as well. So we'll be in touch
7 independent of this group, hopefully in the next week, ten
8 days.

9 TRANSLATOR: So this is the book that explains
10 everything?

11 HEARING OFFICER: Yes.

12 TRANSLATOR: In there?

13 MR. LOHMAN: Yeah. About the project.

14 TRANSLATOR: Okay. You didn't give me a chance. I
15 was going to say stop.

16 MR. LOHMAN: Smack me on the back of my bald head.

17 TRANSLATOR: Stop, would you (laugh)?

18 (Translation by Translator)

19 MR. LOHMAN: I'll put Luke in a difficult position.
20 Can you leave that copy behind, or is it marked up?

21 MR. FRANKLIN: No. I can leave it behind.

22 MR. LOHMAN: All right.

23 MR. FRANKLIN: I can leave it.

24 MR. LOHMAN: That's one.

25 TRANSLATOR: So that's for anybody to look at, right?

1 MR. LOHMAN: Yeah. That's the short summary of the
2 whole project in this document.

3 (Translation by Translator)

4 MR. LOHMAN: So you guys can fight -- sorry.

5 (Translation by Translator)

6 (Comments from the audience)

7 (Translation by Translator)

8 TRANSLATOR: He was going too fast. Maybe I missed
9 that part.

10 (Question from the audience)

11 MR. LOHMAN: Yeah, the first deadline was March 13th,
12 and we asked for an extension. And they gave it.

13 (Translation by Translator)

14 (Question from the audience)

15 MR. LOHMAN: There were informational meetings held
16 in January? Is that right?

17 MR. KING: In January, and we were planning on coming
18 here, but because of the death of an elder.....

19 MR. LAMPE: 'Cause I remember the last time you
20 sent.....

21 MR. KING:it was canceled.

22 MR. LAMPE:that to the school, and they were on
23 school vacation for three weeks, so we didn't get that EIS
24 until after the informational meeting. You've got to keep that
25 in mind, too.....

1 HEARING OFFICER: Okay.

2 MR. LAMPE:of where you're sending your
3 documentation. And you're sending them to a place where we
4 have no access, and there's a deadline right after they come
5 back to the village.

6 HEARING OFFICER: Okay.

7 MR. LAMPE: You've got to keep that in notes and keep
8 that in mind and send it to a place where people can actually
9 read it.

10 (Translation by Translator)

11 (Comments from the audience)

12 (Translation by Translator)

13 TRANSLATOR: I'm just explaining what Len was saying.
14 He should go slower than you.

15 (Laughter)

16 I speak the new version of Inupiat.

17 HEARING OFFICER: I see.

18 (Laughter, side comments)

19 MR. LOHMAN: Kind of like pidgin, pidgin Inupiat.
20 Again, I'm sorry to steal the mike. One more thing. Again,
21 the Borough and the AEWC are going to be preparing comments,
22 and anybody who's going to testify tonight, you all have things
23 you want to say, and we really want to hear them. If, in
24 particular from the Borough's standpoint, anybody's going to
25 testify, if you can talk about what subsistence use you make of

1 the area.

2 And when you look at this document, it's a big
3 document, but if you can go find -- and I turned right to it by
4 accident. Look. Look, I've been reading my document; I've got
5 it all marked up. But it talks about the subsistence use
6 patterns in this area that might be affected by this project.
7 So it's important for us if you can look at that section and
8 tell us if it's accurate.

9 (Translation by Translator)

10 (Comments from the audience)

11 (Translation by Translator)

12 TRANSLATOR: His name is Noah Itta, and he's got --
13 he just moved here. He's with the corporation, you know,
14 Nuiqsut Corporation, but he lives in Barrow. But he just got
15 here, and he's got some questions. He's got something to say
16 about that deal.

17 PUBLIC TESTIMONY OF MR. NOAH ITTA

18 (As translated by Ms. Mabel Pederson)

19 When the Navy first got here, you know, when they
20 start looking for, exploring for oil, there were 13 ships
21 sitting in front of Barrow. And he knows very well that the
22 Navy helped us a lot, heating-wise, when they were buying their
23 oil. That's when there was no white men around in this area,
24 you know. That's -- he's very thankful for the Navy to find
25 the natural gas for our heat purpose. When they find the oil

1 about two thousand something below and they brought it into the
2 village to help the village for the heat, he is very thankful
3 for that part.

4 There are -- so these people here that are sitting in
5 front of us, they're here to find out and see what you think of
6 what they're going to work on. He knows what they're talking
7 about; he seen it when they worked on it. At that time, there
8 were some, you know, oil explorers, and they started using
9 dynamite, you know, using dynamite to see if they could find
10 the oil. There was a couple of Natives that was with them.
11 That was close to Barrow area.

12 They are very thankful, he knows that they done real
13 good, and when they were asked not to disturb the hunting area
14 and the river that they fish, if they are fishing, when they
15 are fishing. There were two guides that was guiding them to go
16 around the area that the Natives don't want touched. And they
17 were good about that part, the people that was exploring for
18 oil around Barrow area. So Luther Leavit and Walter Akpik were
19 the guides that were keeping them away from the area that they
20 don't want disturbed. So the drillers were very good about
21 following their directions, you know, keeping away from where
22 those hunters want them to be away, you know.

23 But later on, he found out there were some explosions
24 being used on that river that they want, the hunters, to stay
25 away, you know. They went against the wishes of those people

1 that was guiding them, showing them to stay away from. That
2 was a main river that they go fishing on, from way back, they
3 live off. It was just like their garden. You know, like you
4 people have your gardens growing, your vegetables. So that
5 river was more like their garden. And then when the oil
6 explorers, they used dynamite in that river.

7 Since then, since they used dynamite in that river,
8 they never find no fish in that river again 'cause they were
9 using dynamite right in the river. They were using dynamite in
10 the river, and they disturbed the garden of where they live off
11 of, and they were very hurt about that. They didn't -- there's
12 a lot of people that disagree with that part. And there's even
13 some people who were even living at Barrow at that time when
14 they were using dynamite in that river, the main river where
15 they go fishing 'cause it's closer to Barrow. And they used
16 dynamite in it. And there's not -- there isn't any fish in
17 that river now.

18 They waited three years in order to see some fish in
19 that river, you know, that river that they hunt, get their
20 supplies for the river, with the fish, you know. They had to
21 wait three years. And now it's -- there are some fish in there
22 now. That's why he's concerned about those animals, you know,
23 in the ocean, that they live off up until now. He's concerned
24 about those animals, that they're going to be disturbed by the
25 drilling or the hammering or whatever, all the noise that goes

1 into it, you know. He's worried about that.

2 He's very disturbed about that 'cause he's afraid
3 that they might have to wait longer, you know, for the whales
4 or any kind of sea mammals to be coming around that area again.

5 He doesn't know how long they will have to wait for them to
6 come around that area. So he's -- that's his (indiscernible).

7 He wishes that they wouldn't be drilling in the ocean while
8 there's oil in the land. He wishes that much, for that part.

9 He sure hates to see some drilling being done in the
10 ocean right now, and he hates for the mammals to be disturbed
11 because they live off of them from generation to generation.
12 And then he opposes drilling down in the ocean while there is
13 oil on land. He very much opposes it. He's not happy with it.

14 Like the rest of these people here, they're not happy with it.

15 They go far down there to -- you know, way far from their home
16 to catch the whale, and then how far would they have to go if
17 they -- you know, if the whales are disturbed from the drilling
18 right now? How far do they have to go get the whale? That's
19 what he's worried about.

20 Any kind of thing a sea mammal, if they are being
21 disturbed, and then they won't be going toward that noise, you
22 know, drilling in the ocean. It's loud. He seen it when it
23 was happening. It would really be disturbing all those animals
24 down there. He hates to see that part.

25 If it is very necessary for you guys to be drilling

1 in that area, he much would -- he would like to see it be done
2 in December, January, February. December, January, or
3 February, that's the time that they -- he would like the
4 drillers to be doing their work in those three months because
5 he knows that the sea mammals come up this way to have their
6 babies and, you know, get borne their litters, seals and polar
7 bears. Any kind of animals that live on the ocean, that's the
8 time they come up, is on those other months, you know, by the
9 time they -- what you call it? -- they have their babies
10 (laugh).

11 But he would be -- if it's only necessary, he would
12 like to see you guys work on those three months, the period of
13 time, three months. He hates to see the animals to be
14 disturbed on those other months 'cause those animals come up to
15 migrate to have their, you know.

16 His feeling is that the oil companies, to his eyes,
17 it's more like the oil company is ripping these people off the
18 money. It's more like they're throwing the money away from
19 Alaska, you know, from the Natives. When they get the oil out
20 of the well, the big money is going somewhere else other than
21 these people that lives around here. And yet he is very
22 thankful that they are helping him, giving him a job.

23 Only thing that he don't like is that the flow of
24 that oil out of the village of the Natives, you know, when they
25 should get so many percentage of that money that the oil

1 company is making out of -- you know, he would be happy if they
2 would share some of that money with these people around here
3 'cause these people have been living around here seven -- since
4 1700 years or even more. You know, they've been living around
5 here, and it's their land. It's their -- they are sharing with
6 the oil company, but the oil company doesn't seem to be sharing
7 the oil with these people.

8 It just flows out of here. They just let it go
9 someplace else where the other people, you know, Lower 48
10 doesn't -- you know, white people make more money than these,
11 and, you know, he would be glad if they could share a little
12 bit more money out of that oil when they find it around here.

13 MR. ITTA: Thank you. I talk too much.

14 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you for testifying, Noah.

15 MR. KING: Thank you.

16 MR. ITTA: I just get (indiscernible).

17 HEARING OFFICER: Okay. Thank you.

18 MR. KING: Thank you.

19 (Applause)

20 MR. LOHMAN: Any questions for Noah?

21 (Translation by Translator)

22 MR. LOHMAN: Paul. Paul? Could I ask a question?

23 HEARING OFFICER: Yeah, just one second. Does
24 anybody have any questions for Noah from the audience?

25 (Translation by Translator)

1 HEARING OFFICER: Okay. No. Is there a question,
2 Mabel?

3 (Translation by Translator)

4 (Comment from the audience)

5 (Translation by Translator)

6 MR. KING: Ted has a question.

7 HEARING OFFICER: Yeah. Wait a minute. Is -- Mabel,
8 is he going to testify or ask a question?

9 (Translation by Translator)

10 (Comment from the audience)

11 TRANSLATOR: He's going to see what he's going to do.

12 MR. KING: Did.....

13 HEARING OFFICER: It's okay.

14 MR. KING: Okay.

15 HEARING OFFICER: Well.....

16 MR. KING: We'll pick it up.

17 HEARING OFFICER: I'll pick it up.

18 (Translation by Translator)

19 HEARING OFFICER: Johnny, it's important that we have
20 it in little pieces so she can translate.

21 PUBLIC TESTIMONY OF MR. JOHNNY AHTUANARUK

22 (As translated by Ms. Mabel Pederson)

23 He used to live in Barrow, and then one year, him and
24 his sister were talking about moving back around this area to
25 spend the summer. That was before Nuiqsut was planning. He

1 said he got land for the (indiscernible). He make it bigger
2 from what they got. He make it bigger when he was marking it
3 or something like that. And then the North Slope Borough
4 decided to help the people to move back, whoever wants to move
5 back, around their area, this area, 'cause they used to live
6 off this land. Their parents and their ancestors lived off
7 this land.

8 So they decide to help the people who wants to come
9 back to the place where they used to live and where they grew
10 up. That's how they make the Nuiqsut, you know, so people
11 could come back to their -- where their parents used to live.
12 Because he helped him, they gave them \$500 to start with, which
13 isn't much. At that time, they were living in a tent. No
14 houses, just in the tent all through the winter. No heating
15 system, no coal to burn, no wood to burn. They have Coleman
16 stove. They lived through the winter that way. '73.

17 HEARING OFFICER: '73.

18 TRANSLATOR: 1973.

19 MR. AHTUANARUK: Yeah.

20 BY MR. AHTUANARUK (Resuming):

21 At that time, there was two other guys that was in
22 with him. They marked the property around where they were
23 going to -- you know, where they wanted to be hunting, or
24 something like that. And back to the place where you guys want
25 to put the pipe and drill down there, he knows in summertime,

1 there's lots of fish there, and he knows they're going to be
2 disturbed when you guys start working around in that area
3 'cause there's lots and lots of kakta (ph) around in that area
4 in summertimes. Even though they come through the river, there
5 are fish down there. That's going to be very much disturbed by
6 drilling down there.

7 Wherever that pipe you guys put under the ocean floor
8 down there, since that happened, them kakta (ph) fish, they go
9 skinny. They are skinnier than they used to be. There is
10 something wrong with them. It might have something to do with
11 that pipe. It -- something's making them skinny. You know,
12 they used to be fat.

13 MR. LOHMAN: Is that the Northstar pipe he's talking
14 about?

15 TRANSLATOR: Huh?

16 MR. LOHMAN: Is that the Northstar pipe that he's
17 talking about?

18 TRANSLATOR: That's what.....

19 MR. KING: Or Alpine?

20 MR. LOHMAN: Or Alpine? What -- which pipe is he
21 talking about?

22 (Translation by Translator)

23 TRANSLATOR: That pipe that's close to Prudhoe Bay.

24 MR. AHTUANARUK: Prudhoe Bay, passing maybe. Passing
25 Prudhoe Bay south.

1 (Translation by Translator)

2 (Side conversation in Inupiat)

3 MR. LOHMAN: The Northstar pipe that just went in.

4 TRANSLATOR: Northstar.

5 MR. AHTUANARUK: Northstar, yeah.

6 TRANSLATOR: Since that one, there's -- the taste of
7 the fish changed, and they are not fat like they used to be.
8 Something is causing that.

9 BY MR. AHTUANARUK (Resuming):

10 Right now, the fish that they used to get down here,
11 they used to be so healthy, so shiny, fat, more like seeping
12 out through their skin, you know, before. Right now, they are
13 skinny. They look sick. They are dark; they are not shiny
14 like they used to be, you know, healthy looking. Right now,
15 they're so skinny.

16 He got the same feeling as Noah, you know, while
17 there's land, that where they could drill, while they are still
18 finding oil in land, they should -- he hates to see the
19 drilling done down in the ocean 'cause the land is -- they're
20 still finding oil here in land, where they're going to disturb
21 the mammals down there in the ocean. So he hates to see that
22 drilling done in the ocean while they could get the -- find the
23 oil around the land. Thank you.

24 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you. And we need him, for
25 the record, to state his name.

1 TRANSLATOR: Oh. Johnny Ahtuanaruk.

2 HEARING OFFICER: Good. For the record. Thank you.

3 MR. LOHMAN: Can I ask Johnny a question?

4 TRANSLATOR: We (indiscernible) from Nuiqsut from way
5 back.

6 HEARING OFFICER: Okay. And Tom Lohman has a
7 question for Johnny.

8 MR. LOHMAN: I got a couple of questions for you,
9 Johnny. First, have you had the same problem with the fish at
10 any other time in the past? Before the pipeline.

11 (Translation by and through the Translator)

12 MR. AHTUANARUK: No. The fish never looked unhealthy
13 before. That's.....

14 (Translation by Translator)

15 MR. AHTUANARUK: They started noticing the difference
16 on the fish the past two years. This year is the worst part,
17 you know, the look of the fish and the taste. It's worse this
18 year. It's.....

19 HEARING OFFICER: Okay.

20 MR. LOHMAN: Okay. And the next question is, in that
21 document that's floating around somewhere -- I need it back, by
22 the way, Rosemary.

23 ROSEMARY: Yeah.

24 MR. LOHMAN: But there is some discussion in that
25 document of a thing called tainting. And that's a term.....

1 TRANSLATOR: Of what?

2 MR. LOHMAN: It's called tainting. I'll explain what
3 it means. Basically, what it means is, the feeling of the
4 authors of the document is that if there's an oil spill in the
5 path of -- they talk about bowhead whales -- in the path of the
6 bowhead whale, and even if a lot of whales aren't killed by
7 going near or through the oil, that there'll be a feeling among
8 the people that they don't want to harvest -- sorry -- that
9 they don't want to harvest for or eat those whales.

10 And the name they give that is tainting, that the
11 whales would be tainted, and that you wouldn't feel like
12 harvesting or eating whales that may have been exposed to oil,
13 or were exposed to oil. And my question, I guess for the
14 Borough is, Is that true? Would you not want to eat or harvest
15 whales after there had been an oil spill in your area? Would
16 it apply to other species, like fish? Would you stop
17 harvesting fish for a while after an oil spill? And how long
18 would that last if that's true?

19 (Translation by and through the Translator)

20 MR. AHTUANARUK: No families would eat the seal.
21 They sure wouldn't want it if that done, around the whales too,
22 they say. So I interpret what you were saying. Did you want
23 to know what they think of that?

24 MR. LOHMAN: Yeah, what do they think of that? Would
25 they stop harvesting fish or whales that had migrated through

1 an area where an oil spill is? Let's say even -- let's say
2 there was an oil spill out in the Barter Island area. Would
3 you hunt whales that year?

4 (Translation by Translator)

5 MR. AHTUANARUK: No. They wouldn't want to hunt
6 around that area where there's a oil spill. They wouldn't even
7 want to do no -- they wouldn't want to fish around that place
8 where there's a fill -- spill. Like those first.....

9 MR. LOHMAN: Yeah, it's more than that. The question
10 I'm asking, we've heard this from some people, even in Point
11 Hope and down in the St. Lawrence Island area, that if there
12 was an oil spill in the Beaufort Sea, they wouldn't take whales
13 that year.

14 TRANSLATOR: No, they wouldn't, they say. They
15 wouldn't want to hunt around that. It would -- I mean.....

16 (Translation by through the Translator)

17 MR. AHTUANARUK: They wouldn't want any oil spilled
18 in the ocean 'cause they won't be whaling down near where the
19 spill was 'cause it's very, very bad to taste the oil on any
20 kind of a animal. It doesn't taste good at all. They wouldn't
21 want that to happen, even to the fish.

22 You know, since you guys are finding oil and taking
23 it out of Alaska, around this area, it's just like taking some
24 from them. And you guys use all the land, drilling here and
25 there, keeping animals away from this area from -- with the

1 noise and everything. The fish out there (indiscernible) and
2 the whales out in the ocean down there, if that happened, if
3 the animals going to come around here no more. You know, if
4 you -- if they keep drilling around this area, where would they
5 go to go get their meat?

6 So if that happened, he would like to see some
7 reindeer herd -- reindeer shipped down here. It's just like
8 you guys wanted the oil out there, he would like to see some
9 reindeer shipped down here for the replacement of the animals
10 that is being driven away from here. He would -- that would be
11 right, you know, since with all these noise around here, they
12 scare the animals. You know? The day I fly, I never seen
13 nothing except about ten, five miles away from the mountain.
14 That's the only caribous I seen. We fly in the open, and I
15 didn't see nothing.

16 He's thinking about that. If that happened, if the
17 animals wouldn't come around here no more, what's going to
18 replace them? That's their living. That's their way of their
19 making a living. You know. That's what they live on. They
20 hate to see them animals be driven out of here. So if that
21 happened to happen, he would like to see some reindeers shipped
22 down here so they could, you know, raise them, herd them, just
23 like you guys herd the cows down there, sheep, and things like
24 that.

25 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, Johnny. Thank you.

1 MR. LAMPE: I wanted to add a comment to Tom
2 Lohman's -- just, you know, to elaborate a little bit more.

3 We're already a living example of if you would eat
4 contaminated animals or fish. Right now, our burbot is
5 contaminated with PCP from the contaminants in Umiat. And
6 we're -- I'd say like 60 percent of the village used to harvest
7 burbot. Now I'd say only 10 percent, if even any 10 percent.
8 I think only two families now go out and hunt burbot. I'm one
9 of them, and then there's another one, and then there's a
10 couple, maybe three or four guys that sit -- but that gives you
11 an example that no one wants to eat contaminated fish, or even
12 wants to risk it. But, you know, that gives you an example
13 there.

14 MR. LOHMAN: And you glow in the dark now, don't you?

15 MR. LAMPE: Yeah (laugh). I don't glow yet.

16 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, Leonard. I did -- we
17 kind of got a little ahead of ourselves. I did want to
18 introduce Albert Barros. Mabel? Albert Barros is -- hang onto
19 that for a minute (laugh). Albert Barros is our Community
20 Liaison with MMS. So if you could -- that name is right there,
21 Albert Barros. He's our Community Liaison with MMS.

22 TRANSLATOR: What's MMS stand for?

23 HEARING OFFICER: Minerals Management Service.
24 That's the organization.

25 (Translation by Translator)

1 HEARING OFFICER: The Community Liaison.

2 TRANSLATOR: Albert Barros.

3 HEARING OFFICER: Right.

4 (Translation by Translator)

5 HEARING OFFICER: Also, there are three people here
6 from BP, and those are Luke Franklin, Dennis Koehler, and Cash
7 Fay. If they can identify themselves. Luke Franklin?

8 (Translation by Translator)

9 TRANSLATOR: Dennis?

10 HEARING OFFICER: Koehler.

11 (Translation by Translator)

12 TRANSLATOR: And Cash Fry (sic).

13 HEARING OFFICER: Fay. There. Good. And if anybody
14 has questions for any of us or of BP, they should feel free to
15 ask those questions.

16 (Translation by Translator)

17 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you.

18 MR. LAMPE: Can we go up and down, back and forth, or
19 just once?

20 HEARING OFFICER: Any way you want to do it. But Ted
21 Rockwell did have a question that he wanted to ask Noah.

22 MR. ROCKWELL: Yeah. The question was regarding the
23 statement that Noah made about wanting to limit the drilling to
24 three months. What I wanted to know was does he mean literally
25 the drilling or all activity that would occur on the island,

1 the production and everything?

2 TRANSLATOR: Oh, I could answer that.

3 MR. ROCKWELL: Boat traffic and everything else.

4 TRANSLATOR: I could answer that one. He hates to
5 see any kind of activities being done other than those three
6 months.

7 MR. ROCKWELL: Okay.

8 TRANSLATOR: In those three months, he would like to
9 see you guys be working only on three months, but after those
10 three months, he would like to see anything shut -- everything
11 shut down, get everything quieted down in the ocean, you know,
12 because the mammals are the ones that's going to be needing the
13 quietness down there. That's where they.....

14 HEARING OFFICER: Noise is the main issue? Noise?

15 TRANSLATOR: Noise, and he's worried that there might
16 be some oil spill.

17 (Translation by and through Translator)

18 BY MR. ITTA: Yeah. He would much rather see, if
19 it's only necessary for you guys to be drilling down there --
20 if it's only necessary. If it had to be done only three
21 months, he would like to see you guys work down there only
22 three months at a time. That's in wintertime, December,
23 January, and February. There's hardly no animals down there
24 during that time. So and other than that, you know, he'd like
25 to see everything shut down and get everything quieted down for

1 them animals to be back around in that area.

2 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you.

3 MR. LOHMAN: Noah talked about when the Navy ships
4 first came to Barrow looking for oil. Tom Brower once told me
5 about a time when a Navy ship got hung up on a sandbar in
6 Barrow and let go of a bunch of oil to get off the sandbar. Is
7 Noah familiar with that?

8 TRANSLATOR: With the what?

9 MR. LOHMAN: There was a Navy ship.....

10 TRANSLATOR: I have to get closer to you. I can't
11 hear you.

12 MR. LOHMAN: Oh, I like that.

13 HEARING OFFICER: We also.....

14 TRANSLATOR: Hey, I'm not young no more.

15 HEARING OFFICER: We also need.....

16 MR. LOHMAN: I got a.....

17 TRANSLATOR: I guess I'm not young no more, so.....

18 HEARING OFFICER: You need to state your name each
19 time.....

20 MR. LOHMAN: Okay.

21 HEARING OFFICER: for the record so when he does
22 his transcription, he doesn't have to remember.

23 MR. LOHMAN: Tom Lohman, for the record. I just feel
24 like saying that. Tom Brower in Barrow once told me about an
25 incident where a Navy ship got hung up near Nelson Lagoon on a

1 sandbar and let go of a bunch of oil to get off the sandbar.
2 And that people didn't see birds and fish in that area for
3 three or four years afterward -- or whales, in the lagoon area
4 for three or four years afterward. And since Noah mentioned
5 the Navy ships, I wondered if he knew about that incident.

6 (Translation by and through Translator)

7 MR. ITTA: Yep, he remembers that. He knows about
8 that.

9 MR. LOHMAN: And is it true they didn't see animals
10 for -- for how long afterward?

11 (Translation by and through Translator)

12 MR. ITTA: There were lots of seals and lots of ducks
13 and all kinds of animals that was killed by that oil they
14 spilled in the ocean. That small portion of that oil they
15 spilled in the ocean, that time when they just spilled it out
16 of that ship, killed lots of seals, lots of ducks. But they
17 seemed to come back right after they cleaned it up. That small
18 portion of that oil got in the ocean, caused lots of animal
19 problems. You know, they killed lots of animals on there. But
20 then they cleaned up all summer long, but after they cleaned it
21 up, they seemed to come back. There are still some around
22 there, but then that oil is no good for any kind of animals in
23 the water, any kind of water. There's -- it kills.

24 MR. LAMPE: He said the environment was never
25 abundant like it was.

1 TRANSLATOR: Yeah.

2 MR. LOHMAN: Thanks, Noah.

3 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you.

4 (Translation by Translator)

5 MR. ITTA: He remembers that oil, that oil spill in
6 Valdez, and when that happened, there was hardly no small birds
7 around here, that they never come back up here, even the pren
8 (ph), you know, the keys (ph). The few come, but not like they
9 used to. Lots of that killed the animals that used to come up
10 here, too, you know. He remembers that.

11 That's what he would like to see you guys do your
12 drilling in those only three months. 'Cause in March, the
13 animals start coming back out this way, and he'd much rather
14 see that area be quiet for the animals to be back to, so they
15 wouldn't have to wait for them when they disappear.

16 You guys have -- in this area, they have to look for
17 the oil in the ocean. He would like to see you guys keep the
18 ocean clean, not even a drop of oil be spilled in the ocean,
19 'cause even a small portion of the oil could kill lots of
20 animals. 'Cause he very much noticed the taste of the fish,
21 that white fish that they get from Mayorhagdak (ph), he notice
22 the difference. They could hardly eat them now. They're so
23 different. They don't taste like a long time ago when they
24 were healthy. They don't taste good; they couldn't eat them.
25 So he hates to see any oil spilled around where the animals

1 where they live off from.

2 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you. Is there anyone else
3 who would like to testify? A number of people have signed up.
4 Yes. Please. And please state your name when you start your
5 testimony.

6 (Translation by Translator)

7 MR. LOHMAN: Mabel. Mabel.

8 PUBLIC TESTIMONY OF MR. ARCHIE AHKIVIANA

9 Yeah, my name is Archie Ahkiviana. I'm President of
10 Nuiqsut Whaling Captains Association; also, alternate
11 Commissioner for AEWC.

12 First of all, I'll tell you this: that I'm opposed
13 to any kind of oil activity in the east side of Cross Island,
14 of any kind, 'cause we had some problems when they had activity
15 around Camden Bay area 'cause the whales were devoted --
16 chasing out about 25 miles. We had to go to some small island
17 out, and we had difficult time. And I also lost my whale that
18 year 'cause we couldn't tow it in 'cause it was too far out,
19 and we got caught in the storm in that area.

20 If there's any kind of activities on the east side of
21 this for whaling, any kind of activities on the east side of
22 Cross Island, it would divert whale out from the coast line,
23 from their migrating route. If there's no activities, we
24 get -- you know, like last year, we stayed only -- stayed out
25 only eight days to get our quota. See, if there's any

1 activities in the area, we might spend two or three weeks
2 'cause we have to go way out. And then trying to tow those
3 with a small boat is very hard, I mean, very hard, especially
4 when it's stormy, kind of stormy, you know. But you could try
5 to tow it, with a small boat, it's very hard.

6 That area is a critical area for whales, 'cause the
7 small whales will go into that bay, I mean, into those -- in
8 the inside of those Barrier Islands. We have seen them, not
9 only whales, but we seen some belugas, porpoises that goes on
10 that area, some -- seen some walruses up in that area, I mean,
11 up where they go through. See, if there's any activities in
12 that area, we would have a hard time again whaling with our
13 small boats. We don't have a big ship or any kind.

14 And also, that area is critical for arctic ciscos
15 that migrate through that area. And the peoples around here in
16 North Slope, also the peoples in Barrow, Wainwright, you know,
17 wherever, they depended on that arctic cisco. They liked that
18 fish. So if there's any kind of oil spill or activities in
19 that area, they would divert their migrating route also.
20 That's how come they got crossways in those -- where? -- at
21 Endicott? They got crossways at Endicott and also at West
22 Dock. To let the fish go through. They migrate, from what I
23 understand, from McKenzie River.

24 See, you could get the tax off some less ciscos.
25 They be for some -- from Fairbanks. You know, they really came

1 in through McKenzie, but you could, you know, see the tax on
2 those fish. So I'm very opposed of any activities in that
3 area.

4 And then this high wind, we were down at Cross Island
5 about a couple of years ago. We couldn't go off the island,
6 even though we'd gotten all our quotas in, 'cause of the high
7 wind. The swells were about 28 feet high. Even the seismic
8 boat couldn't reach us, it was so high-winded, you know. And
9 then when the wind died down, the seismic boat went after us to
10 pick us up off the island 'cause we were getting low on water
11 and food, you know, but we got a lot of whale meat and stuff.

12 HEARING OFFICER: Twenty-eight-foot swells were where
13 again?

14 MR. AHKIVIANA: Around that area.

15 HEARING OFFICER: Cross Island?

16 MR. AHKIVIANA: Yeah. They couldn't -- I mean, yeah.
17 Yeah, just right by the Cross Island, yeah.

18 BY MR. AHKIVIANA (Resuming):

19 Also, they couldn't reach us from -- even from West
20 Dock. They couldn't go over 'cause it was so high, the waves
21 were so high. And that current is swift in the inside of those
22 Barrier Islands. So if there's any oil spills in that -- where
23 there is -- where the Liberty is located, it will be very too
24 critical 'cause they won't be able to stop it. It just goes
25 through.

1 We seen, when they have activities, they divert the
2 whales out. We had to go 25 to north some -- out, about 25 to
3 30 miles out. So any noise, activities in that area is very
4 critical for whaling migration. So I'm very opposed of any
5 activities in that area.

6 If they go up into ANWR, that would be better off.
7 You know. I'm for it. Maybe you guys could help us to open
8 that ANWR. Huh?

9 HEARING OFFICER: Maybe the President is interested
10 in that.

11 MR. AHKIVIANA: We'll write to him. You're the
12 peoples. You're the right peoples to talk with. Yes.

13 MR. LOHMAN: Archie, Tom Lohman again. This.....

14 TRANSLATOR: I got a question for Archie. Can I ask?

15 MR. LOHMAN: Sure, Mabel.

16 HEARING OFFICER: Sure.

17 (Translator to Mr. Ahkiviana in Inupiat)

18 MR. AHKIVIANA: You mean migrating east?

19 TRANSLATOR: Migrating toward Barter Island where,
20 you know, they do the whaling at the same time as you.

21 MR. AHKIVIANA: No, they migrate from the east side.
22 So no, it don't bother Barter Island.

23 TRANSLATOR: So it's not going to ever divert.....

24 MR. AHKIVIANA: Barter Island site, yeah.

25 TRANSLATOR: Oh, okay.

1 MR. AHKIVIANA: Yes.

2 MR. LOHMAN: Yeah, my question -- this is Tom Lohman
3 again, for the Translator. This thing is inside the Barrier
4 Islands. And a couple of things. How often do you see whales
5 inside the Barrier Islands? Would noise at this location,
6 inside the Barrier Islands, affect your whaling that is usually
7 north and east of Cross Island?

8 MR. AHKIVIANA: Well, there's just too much high
9 winds. You know, we go inside the Cross -- those Barrier
10 Islands.

11 MR. LOHMAN: Yeah.

12 MR. AHKIVIANA: There's only one whale that we got,
13 was by passing (indiscernible) that because they was so high-
14 winded. You know? But they -- the peoples at Endicott has
15 seen -- the Natives there? -- has seen belugas going in through
16 there, some smaller whales, like porpoises or the right whales.
17 And they would go out by the Northstar area.

18 And then we've begun to see some high current in that
19 area also. On the -- at the west side of -- in between
20 Northstar and Midway Island. If there's ice coming in from the
21 east side toward the west, once they hit that current, we seen
22 them go straight down, north, northwest from that current.
23 It's getting noticeable. If there's any ice coming in from the
24 east side toward west, they don't cross that no more, you know.
25 Even smaller -- bigger ice. We seen them go straight that --

1 that current is changing somehow.

2 (Pause)

3 MR. AHKIVIANA: I'm opposed to any activities on the
4 east side of Cross Island 'cause of our whaling activity, where
5 we always whale.

6 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you.

7 MR. AHKIVIANA: Okay. Thank you.

8 HEARING OFFICER: Appreciate that, Archie.

9 (Off record)

10 (Tape Change - Tape No. 2 of 3)

11 (On record)

12 HEARING OFFICER: Eli. Will you state your name when
13 he -- for that?

14 MR. NUKAPIGAK: Yeah.

15 PUBLIC TESTIMONY OF MAYOR ELI NUKAPIGAK

16 Eli Nukapigak, Mayor of Nuiqsut. I was one of the
17 few whalers that caught the whale in 1973 when we were living
18 in tents. And from then on, I've been out whaling ever since.

19 As Archie has stated, that when he lost that boat and that
20 whale, we also lost my boat 15 miles out from the nearest
21 island. It just took only one minute for that whale to sink
22 our boat, just like that. It was the Koogulu (ph) Prospect,
23 that prospect in Camden Bay, the adverse effect of our whale --
24 of our whaling that has happened is still going on and on and
25 on.

1 There's no turning back, but we'd like to see some
2 stipulations done that no drilling or activities be done during
3 our fall whaling in Cross Island. Be there no activities at
4 all until our quota is met. And we would like to see that if
5 this ever happened, how you going to -- what you going to do if
6 the big oil spill happens over there? How we going to get our
7 meat from there on? The question like this ever happens.

8 But Nuiqsut is the most impacted village in our North
9 Slope. Even though we say no to Northstar, the resolution that
10 we passed in Northstar Island, we say no to it, but our higher-
11 ups, like the State or the North Slope Borough, override the
12 village that is impacted. Got to change that one around. Got
13 to start listening to the most impacted village, even though
14 the State or MMS have the say-so in that area.

15 But because this is our hunting area, AEWC just
16 passed a resolution in their last meeting that there be no
17 development or seismic activity 15 miles radius from Cross
18 Island. This happened this winter, so we used to hunt. Mike
19 Willike (ph) used to hunt right in North -- Narwhal Island.
20 That's a few miles from Liberty. We know that area that is the
21 high concentrations of the plankton and small fish. It is --
22 now, we know a few places where the whales eat on their
23 migration path.

24 I, for one, had caught a whale two miles from
25 Northstar Island in '97. We have seen and witnessed about

1 hundred or so whale, bowhead whale, grey whales, feeding right
2 in the shore -- near shore in that island. The 30-meter mark
3 is where the zooplankton congregate, and that's where the --
4 shallow area where the bowhead start feeding on their way back
5 south.

6 I would like to see more studies on the zooplankton
7 and also other food sources before any other development ever
8 occur because Northstar is just a -- it just happened two years
9 ago. We would like to see more studies on that area, of our
10 ecological system so that we know what -- how much impact and
11 how much adverse effects is being done in our area of where we
12 do our hunting.

13 This is the stuff that we had to go through. Our way
14 of life will never change. We're still going to keep on
15 hunting. We're still going to keep on living the way we are.
16 We will never change the way unless any big oil impact, like an
17 oil spill, ever happens in our area. How much (indiscernible)
18 capacity do you have if you develop Liberty? What kind of
19 impact are you going to give the village if any occur, if that
20 happens?

21 Just recently we heard from the Northstar, we heard
22 there was some spill, mud spill all over the Northstar Island.

23 It was a good thing it happened when there was ice around.
24 But how about when there's nothing but water and open area with
25 scattered ice? How you going to clean up all that area if it

1 happens that way? Thank you.

2 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you very much.

3 MR. LOHMAN: Tom Lohman again. I have a question for
4 you, Eli. You talked about whales feeding near Northstar
5 Island. Do you mean Northstar Island or Seal Island where the
6 Northstar development project is? You know, they switched
7 names on us.

8 MAYOR NUKAPIGAK: That same place. That's Seal
9 Island, Northstar Island. That's where.....

10 MR. LOHMAN: So that island, not the island called
11 Northstar. There's.....

12 MAYOR NUKAPIGAK: Mm hmm (affirmative).

13 MR. LOHMAN: Okay. So the Northstar development
14 island.

15 MAYOR NUKAPIGAK: Yeah.

16 MR. LOHMAN: Yeah. Okay. Cool.

17 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, Eli. Who else would
18 like to testify at this point? Sure. Cash Fay.

19 PUBLIC TESTIMONY OF MR. CASH FAY

20 Hello and good evening. My name is Cash Fay,
21 representing BP Exploration Alaska, Incorporated, herein BP. I
22 am the Permitting Advisor for the Liberty Project. BP
23 appreciates this opportunity to present testimony on the
24 Liberty Development and Production Plan and the Draft
25 Environmental Impact Statement.

1 The Draft EIS generally presents a thorough and
2 comprehensive analysis of the potential impacts of the Liberty
3 Project. We commend the Minerals Management Service, U.S.
4 Environmental Protection Agency, and the U.S. Corps of
5 Engineers on delivering the Draft EIS and thank you for your
6 hard hours of work. We are particularly pleased that the North
7 Slope Borough has also participated with MMS on the EIS,
8 bringing important local perspective to the process. In
9 particular, we commend the EIS team on ensuring that
10 traditional knowledge is included throughout the document.

11 BP is confident the Liberty design of a gravel island
12 and subsea buried pipeline are appropriate engineering
13 technologies to develop, produce, and transport oil production
14 in this location of the Beaufort Sea. BP has incorporated
15 numerous environmental mitigation features in the project, as
16 detailed in the EIS, and we have made a concerted effort to
17 address local knowledge, information, and concerns obtained
18 through numerous meetings and workshops in the North Slope
19 Borough communities.

20 BP is aware of the issues and concerns some members
21 of your community have about the effects of the Liberty
22 development on subsistence use and is committed to enter into a
23 conflict avoidance agreement with the Alaska Eskimo Whaling
24 Commission and with the Nuiqsut whalers, in particular, to
25 ensure mechanisms are in place to avoid or minimize impacts to

1 subsistence whaling activities in the fall. We have entered
2 into similar agreements in each of the past three years for our
3 open water seismic programs and the Northstar Development
4 Project.

5 BP also would like to draw attention to other
6 environmental mitigation features that demonstrate our
7 commitment to build a safe and environmentally sound project.
8 Examples include minimization of island footprint to a surface
9 area of approximately five acres; minimization of marine
10 discharges through disposal of waste streams, including
11 drilling wastes, in a permitted injection well; and process
12 design to minimize carbon dioxide emissions and to ensure air
13 emissions meet national ambient air quality standards.

14 BP's proposal is an environmentally sound alternative
15 involving the shortest possible pipeline route. The pipeline
16 is designed to protect it from ice gouging, strudel scour,
17 near-shore permafrost, and coastal erosion. BP's pipeline
18 design comprehensively addresses these design issues.

19 The Liberty Project will bring significant revenues
20 to the state and the North Slope Borough and will generate many
21 Alaskan jobs through Alaska hire and contracting. In the North
22 Slope Borough, BP has introduced a number of training and job
23 initiatives in these areas, such as:

24 One, the Ikinalvik (ph) Initiative that includes six
25 programs designed to train and recruit North Slope residents

1 for industry employment or preparation for college curricula in
2 the sciences and engineering.

3 Two, a joint recruiting program with Arctic Slope
4 Regional Corporation.

5 And three, training and contracting programs for the
6 village response teams through Alaska Clean Seas, Elisivik
7 College, Kukpuk, and KIC.

8 Alliance partners in the Liberty Project include two
9 Arctic Slope Regional Corporation subsidiaries. They are
10 Houston Construction Company and Alaska Petroleum Contractors,
11 which are involved in project construction.

12 Finally, we recognize that the North Slope Borough
13 has its own approval process through rezoning, which will
14 involve public comment and hearings on the Liberty Project. We
15 are committed to continue to discuss the project and address
16 the issues and concerns of the North Slope communities.

17 In addition to this testimony, BP will be submitting
18 detailed written comments. Thank you for your opportunity to
19 comment.

20 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, Cash.

21 TRANSLATOR: Did you want me to translate that to the
22 people out here?

23 HEARING OFFICER: Please.

24 TRANSLATOR: Can I borrow your paperwork?

25 (Translation of Mr. Fay's comments by Translator)

1 (Questions from the audience and responses by the
2 Translator)

3 (Pause)

4 (Translation by Translator continued)

5 MR. LAMPE: I have a question for Mr. Cash (sic), if
6 I could.

7 HEARING OFFICER: Certainly.

8 (Translation by Translator)

9 MR. FAY (In an undertone): Leonard Lampe, for the
10 record.

11 PUBLIC TESTIMONY OF MR. LEONARD LAMPE

12 (First in Inupiat.) How could agencies as yourself
13 that's supposed to protect our environment -- my name's Leonard
14 Lampe, for the record, and it's questions for BP as well as the
15 agency. A protection agency is supposed to help protect our
16 air, land, and sea. Right? And Minerals Management is
17 supposed to be kind of helping out people in -- and keeping the
18 world going in energy.

19 How could an agency and as well as BP put up a plan
20 like this when you have no proven method of cleaning a oil
21 spill in the Beaufort Seas in the ice conditions? How can you
22 give them the permission to drill in our ocean with no proven
23 method to clean it up? Who's going to be responsible? Who's
24 going to bring our heritage back, our livelihood, our Inupiat
25 way? It took us thousands of years to stay alive, to prove to

1 ourselves and the rest of the world we can stand on our own two
2 feet.

3 And with a oil spill like this, that's just another
4 blockage for us, and I don't think we can survive that. We're
5 just going to be another lost people in this world. Like
6 yourselves, trying to find your history, where your wagon came
7 from. We know where we came from, and hopefully, we know where
8 we're going, but all of this is in your hands. And how -- I'm
9 going to ask you, How can you permit someone to drill in the
10 ocean when there's no proven technology to clean up an
11 efficient -- a oil spill in that kind of waters or ice
12 conditions?

13 Protection agency, you're supposed to protect us,
14 making sure that we are not vandalized like this. Or as human
15 rights, as humans, as people, as Inupriats, you're supposed to
16 make sure that our environment stays the same, our animals are
17 here, our whole world stays the same for us to keep living.
18 That's a protection agency's job, is to protect our environment
19 and the people. And I don't understand how can you give
20 anybody a permit to drill when you have no proven technology.
21 They don't even know how to clean a spill out there. Even
22 Alaska Clean Seas, been studying years and years and years, and
23 they have no proven technology, nothing. They cannot prove how
24 to clean a spill out here.

25 I want to know how this agency can give that

1 permission to throw away our livelihood like this. That's my
2 question to you. Thank you.

3 HEARING OFFICER: Okay. Do you want to.....

4 MR. ROCKWELL: Sure.

5 HEARING OFFICER:handle that?

6 MR. ROCKWELL: Ted Rockwell with EPA. I think it's
7 very important, for the record, for it -- to understand that
8 this is not EPA's project. We do not -- we are not part of
9 BP's project.

10 MR. LAMPE: But you are the ones with the permit.
11 Right?

12 MR. ROCKWELL: So -- but first of all, it's important
13 to know that.

14 MR. LAMPE: Yeah.

15 MR. ROCKWELL: If you want to translate that?

16 TRANSLATOR: Repeat that for me, please.

17 MR. ROCKWELL: Okay. What I said was it's important
18 to know that the project that the EIS is written on is not
19 EPA's project, it's BP's project.

20 (Translation by Translator)

21 MR. ROCKWELL: Secondly, EPA has not made a decision
22 to issue a permit.

23 (Translation by Translator)

24 TRANSLATOR: To BP?

25 MR. ROCKWELL: To BP, correct.

1 (Translation by Translator)

2 MR. ROCKWELL: Thirdly, the purpose of this hearing
3 is for us to hear what the concerns are from the people who are
4 living here so that we can put those concerns together with
5 concerns that we will have, and we can -- and that we think of.

6 TRANSLATOR: Okay.

7 (Translation by Translator)

8 MR. ROCKWELL: Once we get through with this, all of
9 the public hearings, and we get all the information, then we'll
10 be in a better position to know how we need to proceed.

11 (Translation by Translator)

12 TRANSLATOR: What was the last part?

13 MR. ROCKWELL: On how we would proceed, how we
14 would.....

15 (Translation by Translator)

16 MR. ROCKWELL: And then lastly, it's important to
17 know that EPA's decisions, we don't make a decision on whether
18 to drill or not. What we're looking at, the permits that we're
19 looking at, are only for, essentially, wastewater discharges,
20 like you have sewer discharges here. That's what EPA is
21 looking at. We're also looking, with the Corps of Engineers,
22 at the effect to wetlands and the actual construction of the
23 island. But the decision on whether to drill for oil or not
24 isn't ours. What EPA does do is provide comment to MMS, who
25 does make that decision.

1 (Translation by Translator)

2 MR. ROCKWELL: And then lastly, Leonard, I'm sorry.
3 I know that's only a partial answer, but it's all the answer
4 that I can give at this time.

5 (Translation by Translator)

6 TRANSLATOR: Leonard's question was, my question to
7 you, are you going to figure out, is whoever's going to be
8 drilling, are they going to figure out a way to clean that mess
9 that Leonard was talking about?

10 HEARING OFFICER: I'll talk about it.

11 TRANSLATOR: Oh, okay.

12 MR. ROCKWELL: I hit it to him.

13 TRANSLATOR: Oh.

14 MR. LAMPE: I got other questions, too.

15 HEARING OFFICER: I'll make this real short, Leonard.

16 MR. LAMPE: Okay.

17 HEARING OFFICER: The company has to supply us with a
18 acceptable oil spill contingency plan, not only acceptable to
19 the federal government but acceptable to the State. And we're
20 well aware of the difficulties of cleaning up in broken ice,
21 and so we await that plan to see that it's adequate.

22 MR. LAMPE: Okay. But still, there's no proven
23 technology; right?

24 HEARING OFFICER: Well, we want to see what's in the
25 revised plan that's submitted.

1 MR. LAMPE: Mm hmm (affirmative).

2 HEARING OFFICER: And it will be a plan that's
3 submitted for Northstar, and there'll be a plan for Liberty.

4 FURTHER PUBLIC TESTIMONY OF MR. LEONARD LAMPE

5 Okay. I know, too, hundreds and thousands of dollars
6 come off these projects to the State and to the departments,
7 but, you know, the people that are impacted, we don't see any
8 of that monies. I mean, maybe very little in programs, maybe
9 the Borough in tax -- you know, taxes, with property taxes, but
10 that's about it. And then we put up with all this impact and
11 all this -- it's more of an impact, a burden, than it is of a
12 blessing, I think, up here.

13 You talk -- BP talks about jobs, how they promise all
14 these jobs to us. We have 560 residents, and not one -- not
15 one -- is working for British Petroleum or its contractors.
16 Now, that gives you some kind of an idea. And they said this
17 about Northstar. They've said this about other projects in the
18 past. They promised us jobs, and still, we haven't seen
19 anything or heard of anything here in the village. That always
20 comes with projects, promises of jobs and wealth and money, but
21 it doesn't happen on this end. Maybe on your end. Maybe in
22 Anchorage.

23 We see a lot of BP workers and their children, and
24 their children's children, going to work there in the
25 industrial area, but not our children or ourselves. And that's

1 a fact. I lost a job so one of them BP big boys's sons can go
2 to work. That made me determined to go to school, to college.

3 Said my son's going to college, so you're fired today.' So I
4 made up my mind the next day to go to college. So we're still
5 losing jobs today to the industrial and their sons and their
6 family members. They promise you that they'd give us the jobs.

7 We don't see them on this side.

8 Another thing is whales, they're very disturbed by
9 noise, making it very, very dangerous for us. It's already
10 dangerous enough. You know Alaska fisherman, they say, have
11 the most dangerous job in the world. I think whalers, Inupiat
12 whalers, have the most dangerous job. And it's not -- you
13 know, it's not for pay, it's for food, it's for tradition. And
14 these whales that are being bothered by noises get very intense
15 of what's happening here. This is not normal, so they get very
16 protective, very disturbed, especially among the young, when
17 they have young with them.

18 We have heard from captains earlier tonight how
19 they've lost their whaling crews, their whaling supplies, their
20 whaling boats, almost their lives, because of whales that are
21 being disturbed. And then when we approach them, they're very
22 protective and very -- 'cause they've already been disturbed.
23 So I wanted to let you know that drilling not only impacts the
24 wildlife and the mammals, it also impacts us. It can take our
25 life away easily. Noises like this can take our lives away.

1 And I want that to be in the record, that you heard
2 some hostile whales in the back, and that's all proven because
3 there was drilling around those areas. And next years, or
4 years later when there was no drilling, the whales are back to
5 calm, the way they're supposed to be, and not so protective.
6 But when there's noise and drilling around, they become very
7 agitated and very protective. And our elders have told us that
8 years and years, and that's starting to become proven
9 methodology, or proven to us, that, you know, when we start
10 losing ships and start losing people and crew members, hey,
11 maybe there is some truth to this about noise disturbance
12 disturbing whales.

13 We've had a lot of occurrences with near-shore --
14 Northstar is still too young. We haven't felt the full impacts
15 of Northstar yet, I don't think. Sure, the company does all
16 they can in trying to modify the rig into the animals and
17 the -- what about the people? You know? Sure, the Alaska
18 Whaling Commissions takes care of the whalers. What about the
19 fishermen and the people that hunt the walrus and the arctic
20 cisco? Those people aren't being protected.

21 They don't have no, you know, agreement, where
22 there's all this agreement. They don't have none of these
23 agreements and provisions and guardians like the whalers do.
24 We got to think of those people as well because you're
25 protecting one area of people and you're not protecting others.

1 And I don't think that's fair, as a fisherman myself. You
2 know, some people whale and some don't. And that's how people
3 feel, that you're protecting the whalers and the whale, but
4 you're not protecting us fisherman and people who want seals.
5 That's how people feel.

6 So it's not fair among everybody that you take care
7 of just only one group of people and not others. Even though,
8 you know, the whalers are the most important, but there are
9 other groups up there that need to be recognized as well that
10 are losing their way of life or their harvesting.

11 There's a lot of issues I could get into, but I think
12 these are the most important that I can think of right now.
13 Besides, you know, you know me, I'm always -- they always call
14 me the Inupiat environmentalist, but it's -- I speak out
15 because I think this is -- this is the way I feel. And of all
16 my years of experiences working with the industry, I feel
17 that -- I still feel there is no proven technology to clean,
18 efficiently clean, the arctics (sic) in our waters, and there
19 shouldn't be any business out there until there is a proven
20 method.

21 When you have a proven method of not disturbing the
22 whales and making them agitated, as well as proving the
23 cleaning, that you can clean the sea, I don't think any of
24 us -- most of us wouldn't have a problem with this project.
25 But right now, you have lots of major steps in front of you

1 that need to be overcome, and it's not going to happen
2 overnight, and BP and everybody needs to learn that.

3 One of these days, we're going to have a big spill
4 occurrence up here, and it's going to devastate all the people,
5 their livelihood, everything. From what -- everything they've
6 known from the ocean is going to be all, and it takes years and
7 years to come back. It's going to take even more years up here
8 on the Arctic Slope 'cause we only melt -- what? -- six weeks
9 out of the year, we're purely thawed out.

10 So, you know, these things you need to keep in mind.

11 It took all these many of years, and that's many long summers,
12 many long weeks. We have just a few short weeks of summer up
13 here, so it'll take much longer to clean efficiently a oil
14 spill. And like the elder said earlier, you know, they seen
15 just a small amount in a little area, what a big disaster it
16 was. What a big -- you know, it was abundance of animals, and
17 then just a little spill occurrence, just to get themselves
18 out, what a devastating (sic) it was on that area for a long
19 time, until the residents had to take charge of it themselves
20 and clean the area up themselves in order to see any change --
21 positive change. I mean, and that was -- they had to take care
22 of it themselves, and that was to clean up those spills as
23 well.

24 I don't want to see that. There's no proven
25 technology. You have -- you are disturbing the whales out

1 there when you're drilling, making it more dangerous and
2 more -- you know, as it is for the whalers and everybody else.

3 So I want to thank you for your time, and hopefully, I don't
4 have to come back up here again (laugh).

5 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, Leonard.

6 MR. LOHMAN: Wait. Sit down. Sit. Leonard sit.
7 Let me -- could I ask you a quick question, or do you want that
8 all translated before I ask a question?

9 TRANSLATOR: Should I?

10 MR. LAMPE: I could translate it, or try. Go ahead.

11 TRANSLATOR: Okay. (Comment in Inupiat, laughter.)

12 (Translation by Mr. Lampe)

13 TRANSLATOR: Okay. Can I.....

14 MR. LAMPE: Mm hmm (affirmative).

15 TRANSLATOR:correct you, if I may?

16 MR. LAMPE: Go ahead. Yes.

17 (Laughter)

18 (Translation by Translator)

19 TRANSLATOR: Okay.

20 (Translation by Mr. Lampe, side comment)

21 (Laughter)

22 (Translation by Translator)

23 (Side comments by Mr. Lampe and audience in Inupiat)

24 (Translation by Translator)

25 (Side comments by Mr. Lampe and audience in Inupiat)

1 (Laughter)

2 (Translation by Translator)

3 TRANSLATOR: Okay. Thank you.

4 MR. LAMPE: Mr. Lohman.

5 MR. LOHMAN: Mr. Lampe. I want to -- Tom Lohman, for
6 the record. I'm going to make a little statement about Borough
7 permitting in a minute because Cash brought it up when he was
8 up here. But before I do that, I want to ask you a question.

9 I've been looking at this document, and there's a
10 whole section on cumulative impacts, which is what everybody
11 here lives with on a daily basis. When you guys get up in the
12 morning, you're dealing with everything offshore and Alpine and
13 Kuparuk and everything else. So you, more than any other
14 community on the North Slope, are dealing with the cumulative
15 impacts of the oil industry in Alaska.

16 One thing that I don't see in here, and I want you to
17 think before you answer me, how many of these meetings have you
18 been to in the last year about Northstar, Alpine, McCovey,
19 Liberty?

20 UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER: Two to three meetings a
21 week.

22 MR. LOHMAN: A week. And that's an impact that
23 doesn't show up on the documents. Everybody in this room would
24 probably rather be doing something else right now.

25 MR. LAMPE: Monday Night Football.

1 MR. LOHMAN: And.....

2 (Laughter)

3 MR. LOHMAN: Well, not now. And you're all --
4 hopefully -- are going to spend some time going and looking at
5 this document, too, and that's something -- I'm sure there's a
6 lot of other things you'd rather be doing.

7 MR. LAMPE: Yep.

8 MR. LOHMAN: You talked about your job. You have a
9 job. You also need to go hunting. You need to do a lot of
10 other things. Spend time with your daughter, who bothered me
11 all during dinner.

12 MR. LAMPE: (Laugh.)

13 MR. LOHMAN: But that's an impact that needs to get
14 talked about. So you don't need to lay it on the table here,
15 but we need to talk about that, as the Borough.....

16 MR. LAMPE: Mm hmm (affirmative).

17 MR. LOHMAN:to a community, to start getting
18 some handle on how much time you spend dealing with all this.

19 MR. LAMPE: Yeah.

20 MR. LOHMAN: And not just the time you spend, but the
21 anxiety it causes. So we'll deal with that. That's all I
22 wanted you to sit there for.

23 MR. LAMPE: Okay.

24 MR. LOHMAN: And then if you're done, I have
25 something to say about Borough permitting.

1 MR. LAMPE: I want to know who's this guy.

2 (Laughter)

3 MR. LAMPE: (Laugh) No, I'm just kidding.

4 HEARING OFFICER: I think he's going to testify.

5 MR. LOHMAN: Again, Cash mentioned before that.....

6 (Translation by Translator and Mr. Lampe)

7 MR. LAMPE: Five years ago, I never spoke no Inupiat,
8 believe it or not.

9 MR. LOHMAN: Me neither.

10 (Side comments from the audience)

11 HEARING OFFICER: Okay.

12 MR. LOHMAN: Again, if I can for a few minutes. Tom
13 Lohman. Cash talked about the Borough permitting process, and
14 I want to talk a little bit about that, but also the EIS
15 process and where it'll go from here.

16 They'll -- it's important to understand that comments
17 that are submitted on the document will be responded to in the
18 final document. This is a Draft EIS. And typically what
19 happens when a Final EIS is published is there is sometimes a
20 separate volume that has all of the comments that were
21 submitted on the draft. If they're a letter, they're broken
22 down point by point, and there is a response given.

23 So it's important to keep in mind that these guys are
24 going to have to respond to anything that's submitted by you,
25 by the Borough, AEWC, the BP comments, and so on. So that

1 final document is important for that reason. It's going to
2 be -- it's going to include responses to your comments.

3 (Translation by Translator)

4 (Comment from the audience and response by Translator)

5 MR. LOHMAN: Now -- thank you, Mabel.

6 Now, the federal agencies are going to look at that
7 final document with all the responses to the comments that were
8 submitted before they make their decisions.

9 (Translation by Translator)

10 MR. LOHMAN: Now, the Borough process is different.
11 The way this is going to work is the same as Northstar.
12 Because this is in an area that's called our North Slope
13 Borough Conservation District where no development is allowed,
14 BP will have to get the area rezoned to allow this project to
15 take place in that area.

16 TRANSLATOR: Okay. Start from the start again. You
17 forgot to make it short.

18 MR. LOHMAN: That was short. Leonard, was that.....

19 TRANSLATOR: Yeah, but you.....

20 MR. LOHMAN: Leonard will tell you that was really
21 short for me.

22 (Laughter)

23 TRANSLATOR: Okay.

24 MR. LOHMAN: The Borough process will start with BP
25 submitting an application to get the area rezoned.

1 (Translation by Translator)

2 MR. LOHMAN: Thank you. And that process begins with
3 the staff of the Borough, usually the Planning Department
4 staff, making a recommendation to the Borough Planning
5 Commission.

6 (Translation by Translator)

7 MR. LOHMAN: And then the Planning Commission, by
8 resolution, makes a recommendation to the Borough Assembly.

9 (Translation by Translator)

10 MR. LOHMAN: So it's the Borough Assembly, not the
11 Borough Mayor or the Borough staff, that will make the final
12 decision about whether to rezone this area to allow this
13 project to go forward.

14 (Translation by Translator)

15 MR. LOHMAN: So you guys have to think about a number
16 of different things going on at the same time. We hope you'll
17 look at the document because we want this document to be as
18 accurate as it can be so that the agencies that are looking at
19 it make the best decision they can.

20 TRANSLATOR: Okay.

21 (Translation by Translator)

22 MR. LOHMAN: But you also need to understand that you
23 have a Planning Commission member from this community, and you
24 also have an Assembly person representing your community. So
25 those are two people you want to get across your views to on

1 this project.

2 (Translation by Translator)

3 MR. LAMPE: On the Planning Commission, Planning
4 Commission member, Maggie Kowalski (ph). Also North Slope
5 Borough Assembly member is Frank Long, Jr.

6 (Translation by Translator)

7 MR. LOHMAN: And the last thing, 'cause I know we've
8 got other people that need to talk, is that we hope that BP
9 will submit their application to the Borough and not make us
10 make our decision until the Final EIS is out because we would
11 like to see all of the responses to your comments and to our
12 comments and to every other agency's comments that has experts
13 in it that we don't have before we have to make our
14 recommendation to the Planning Commission and the Assembly.
15 That did not happen on Northstar. We hope that happens on this
16 project. Now I'll sit down like Leonard.

17 (Translation by Translator)

18 (Question from the audience)

19 TRANSLATOR: Okay. You guys have to think about big
20 ice groups, that no matter how deep the water is, it's always
21 in to the bottom of the ocean, and they drag -- whatever it is
22 they drag, that iceberg would drag that. It could go deeper
23 than seven foot maybe, and then it's possible that that iceberg
24 would go to that area and then drag that pipeline off that and
25 broke it. It's possible. Because he knows there are some

1 icebergs that -- to his knowledge, there's always icebergs
2 that's dragging at the bottom of the ocean.

3 Big huge ones, so, you know, when the storms come,
4 they grow. That's how come some of those icebergs always have
5 sand on top of them. They've been rolling under the ocean.
6 That's what he's afraid of.

7 MR. LOHMAN: Thanks, Mabel.

8 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, Mabel. Thank you, Tom.

9 MR. LAMPE: I got a comment, too.

10 HEARING OFFICER: Yes.

11 MR. LAMPE: When you had that Liberty workshop -- or
12 Liberty information meeting at the gym, I wish you guys were
13 here. There was 150 people there, and the whole gym was
14 stomping, "No offshore. No offshore." All night long, like a
15 ball game. You know how it is with a intense ball game, high
16 score -- or the score is high and the bleachers are "Whoo,
17 whoo, whoo" (sic)? That's what it was. And everybody was
18 yelling, "No offshore." And I wish you could have been here
19 and seen that informational meeting on the Liberty. That
20 showed you how intense the village was against this project.
21 Just for your information.

22 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you. Did you get that?
23 Good. Rosemary or James? Whoever would like to go first.

24 MR. LOHMAN: James is in his Dude jacket, for the
25 record.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY OF MR. JAMES TAALAK

1
2 Thank you. I'm James Taalak, for the record. I'm a
3 Cultural Gardener for the City Office of Nuiqsut. My job is to
4 basically work under the auspices of the City Council and the
5 community, for the most part, to pretty much observe and
6 monitor, as much as I could, oil field activity, exploration
7 and development.

8 Let me just share something I experienced last winter
9 at Northstar. I took an opportunity to tour the site to see
10 firsthand what kind of construction activity was going on out
11 there. And the one thing that really stood out in my mind, and
12 I asked some of the BP representatives out there about their
13 trenching operation. You know, they take the rock saws and
14 they make the trenches for the pipeline.

15 But the one thing that stood out in my mind was all
16 the mud and gravel that was brought up and onto the ice. You
17 know, it must have been for about, I don't know, 20 or 30 feet
18 from where the trench -- trenching was, on over, over the ice.

19 And my question to them was, you know, when the ice melts, you
20 know, how much of this gravel will be floating in the water?
21 Because I know in the area, you know, we have seals and fish
22 and plankton and other sorts of, you know, animals that live in
23 the area, if that would have any effect, you know, on that
24 life. And they said it would have some effect, but it would be
25 minimal.

1 Summer came along, the ice broke up, the ice was
2 moving out, you know, I'm going out there with the family to
3 hunt seals, the bearded seal and ring seal. And going further
4 east that way and seeing the ice pack out there, and probably
5 some of the hunters saw it too out there, was, you know,
6 blackness out where it should be white. You know. And the
7 first thing that crossed my mind: Northstar. You know, the
8 trenching. All the mud and gravel that was brought up as a
9 result of the trenching at Northstar for the pipeline.

10 And I recall one of the other hunters -- I was out
11 there another time -- sharing that same fact. So, you know, I
12 can see on the map there the Liberty Project looks like it's
13 going to be a ways out, you know, probably as far as Northstar
14 or not as much, but five miles offshore and in an area where,
15 you know, there is habitat, you know, to fish, to seals, beluga
16 whales, and what have you.

17 And a trench in that area like that, where Liberty is
18 located, you know, within the barrier islands and so much close
19 to Cross Island, but a migratory route for some of the whales
20 and other marine mammals, you know, if there were to be
21 trenching out there, my fear, you know, when -- you know, if as
22 much gravel and mud is brought out of the water, and when thaw
23 comes around and this mud and gravel is released into the water
24 to free-float, you know, right in the migratory route of the
25 marine mammals, you know, I'm sure that, you know, that would

1 cause a diversion in the migratory route, especially for the
2 whales.

3 I'd also like to close by asking or saying, you said
4 earlier that at the federal and State level, there's an
5 acceptance process for these projects and these prospects up
6 here on the North Slope, whether it be on land or offshore,
7 whatever. It would be nice, you know -- you know, for a
8 community like ours, Nuiqsut and probably Barter Island, but
9 for communities to have -- you know, to be very much involved
10 in the acceptance process, you know, for an oil spill
11 contingency plan.

12 I, for one, appreciate you all coming out here to
13 Nuiqsut to hear our concerns, to take our input and, you know,
14 our experiences with oil and gas field development and
15 exploration in the area because, certainly, you know, for the
16 last, I don't know, five years or so, like Mr. Lohman had said,
17 you know, one of the impacts that we have to deal with are the
18 meetings -- meeting, meeting, meeting -- month after month,
19 week after week, you know, where we meet with people like you
20 and the industry and try to come up with ways to work together
21 or, you know, stop this project, work this project. You know,
22 how can we go about this to where everyone's satisfied? So for
23 that, you know, I appreciate that.

24 But as for an acceptance process, like I said, you
25 know, from the federal level and the State level, we certainly

1 appreciate you coming to listen to our concerns, but it would b
2 so much nicer if we were directly involved, you know, in making
3 that decision to accept whatever projects they -- you know,
4 they propose to do offshore. And that's all I have to say.

5 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, James.

6 MR. TAALAK: Thank you.

7 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you for coming and
8 testifying. Do you want to translate, Mabel, or shall we move
9 on?

10 TRANSLATOR: Move on.

11 HEARING OFFICER: All right. Mabel wants us to move
12 on.

13 (Laughter)

14 HEARING OFFICER: Rosemary, I think you're next.

15 PUBLIC TESTIMONY OF MS. ROSEMARY AHTUANARUK

16 My name is Rosemary Ahtuanaruk. I am currently
17 working with the City of Nuiqsut. I am the Vice Mayor, and I
18 also work with the grants that we have for NPRA.

19 City of Nuiqsut has been very inundated with all of
20 the development activities associated with the many projects
21 that are currently slated for development. We are trying
22 drastically to meet commenting deadlines, but it's very
23 difficult to get a comment in when we're not even getting the
24 materials in a timely manner. Oftentimes we're notified from
25 the North Slope Borough after deadlines for comment periods,

1 within at least two to three weeks after the comment deadlines
2 have already been come and gone.

3 We're supposed to be meeting tonight and responding
4 to the report that was put out on the EIS draft, but since we
5 did not have that, people could not respond effectively to
6 that. You are hearing a lot of the concerns that our people
7 are facing, and the biggest fear all of our people are stating
8 is the harm that will happen if a spill prevents us from
9 carrying on with our culture and our lifestyle. Our people
10 exist today by the knowledge and perseverance of our elders.
11 They passed on the ability to harvest from the land, sea, and
12 air. We nourish our mind, body, and soul by this manner,
13 relying on the skills that have been passed on by our elders.

14 We harvest caribou, wolves, foxes, wolverines, arctic
15 cisco, char, salmon, ducks, geese, seals, whales, walrus,
16 berries, and greens, as our elders have taught us over the
17 centuries. We respect the land, sea, and air since they are
18 our store and our garden. They need protection to continue
19 providing for us. Our elders taught us that.

20 We have our first generations of people living in
21 formally structured houses that require a new lifestyle of a
22 cash economy to meet the costs of them. This restricts our
23 harvest by not allowing us to follow the animals. We are
24 facing many problems by this, for our men have been the
25 providers of our families, and they must step between both

1 worlds. They require the guns and the snowmachines to allow
2 them to harvest in the narrow windows of time that exist due to
3 commitment to work. They are torn by the traditional needs of
4 providing from the land and the stresses of needing cash to
5 purchase items that save on time.

6 The stress of these turn many of our people to the
7 social ills of Western society to bury with the pains of these
8 burdens. We cannot allow the ocean to be damaged, for our
9 culture and our subsistence are mandatory for this. The
10 proposed offshore development is risking this for us.

11 There is no adequate means of cleaning up an oil
12 spill, and the damages it would create would be present over
13 the generations to come. The socials ills of society are being
14 brought into the villages by the workers of these projects that
15 suck up the money as fast as it is made, taking it from our
16 families. The lure of high-paying jobs are pulling our youth
17 away from their educating, obstructing their progress to be
18 educated leaders for the future.

19 The damages of developing on land are keeping us from
20 traditional use areas and making harvesting difficult. The
21 exploration and industrial activities push our access to the
22 whales further offshore. The caribou are being scared and more
23 difficult to get to. The fish have been affected, leading to
24 poor harvests and poor quality of fish. The prices of the
25 foods of the rest of the world are beyond our reach.

1 Oftentimes parents must decide if they will purchase heating
2 oil or oranges for our children.

3 The jobs are limited and seasonal, which prevent us
4 from expanding our economies when our bills are year-around.
5 There are families that do not have someone with a job all year
6 long. They rely on the subsistence harvests to feed and
7 support themselves. We have only 50 families that have one
8 person working year-around, and there are over 100 families in
9 our community.

10 The money from development goes further into the
11 urban areas of the state than it does in the villages. The
12 village residents get a boost from the Permanent Fund Dividend
13 that allows them to survive for another year. This does not
14 give them extra materialistic things but only a warmer month,
15 with heat or a stress-free month with bills paid before they
16 are due.

17 Oil development also takes away from our ability to
18 adequately interact with the youth of our communities. The
19 traditional skills and languages are being threatened by the
20 stresses of time and advances of technology, limiting the
21 willingness of the youth by seeing this as old-fashioned.

22 I oppose offshore development, anything in the ocean,
23 because it will harm my family, my community, and our culture.

24 The noise and oil spills that are prominent with development
25 of this type will affect the environment and natural resources

1 that we depend on for subsistence.

2 A day in the life of a Nuiqsut resident has many hats
3 that are readily forgotten when the basic life needs are met by
4 individual -- invisible service providers. The reality of
5 having water, food, and heat and shelter is met by others
6 without our realities. When a village youth gets up in the
7 morning, a reality of having diesel to heat the house is
8 something he may have to obtain if their parent is working in
9 the construction fields around Nuiqsut. The need to plan to
10 get food out to prepare for their siblings after school, and to
11 get water delivered, et cetera, all of the other things that a
12 parent would do if they were in town to do it.

13 This is also multiplied by the reality that many of
14 our youth have many extended family members around the
15 community to care for in the same manner. The work force takes
16 providers from this service away from the families needing it,
17 the need for the teachers to harp attendance when basic life
18 needs are being formulated by a time clock that does not take
19 into account accessibility of services.

20 The barriers are there because the parents aren't
21 there to communicate need by phone, and the students must meet
22 these needs. The stress of trying to work with what they have
23 available and the reality it takes time from them without their
24 request is a cost that is not readily accepted. This is
25 creating a problem with absence of responsibility when the hat

1 is off.

2 The City of Nuiqsut has been facing a large invasion
3 to develop the projects associated with the exploration and
4 development of the natural resources of their area. We are
5 trying to work with the entities that are associated with the
6 organization and coordination of them, yet our resources are
7 not being expanded to allow us the flexibility and demand
8 necessary to meet the many needs that are being identified each
9 day.

10 Our leaders are being stressed to the maximum, and
11 the youth are also being impacted. The unknown impacts are yet
12 to be identified. The rapid change in technology has
13 prohibited this in the past, but with the information and
14 technology available with the Internet, it has opened an avenue
15 that is barred by cost and availability. We need to expand
16 this accessibility to the powerful tool that has opened barred
17 doors to many of the people now at risk. The trapper school
18 has shown success that is created with variations to meet the
19 needs of individuals that are at risk, and now we must focus on
20 developing these tools to combat the problems associated with
21 the development super-rush.

22 The identification of a fuel that will ignite
23 learning and development and minds of the people of our
24 community was a possibility that's lying dormant by lack of
25 exposure. We are limited by the possibilities by having only

1 cable t.v. Internet is a two-way interaction that needs to be
2 inputted and developed as it is being used.

3 The library is part of the school that has a tough
4 goal of trying to get students and education limited by the
5 resources available to new staff that have to identify it as
6 being available first. The community center, the teen center,
7 the day care, and the cultural center that will soon be
8 developed will be sites available for exposing the residents to
9 this possibility. The luxuries that are available in Barrow
10 are not readily available to village residents.

11 The North Slope Borough has exposed their workers to
12 this tool, and the southern areas have been using this tool for
13 quite sometime, but the reality is, it's not available to
14 people in Nuiqsut. The possibility of creating a certification
15 process without the costs of travel and absence from the
16 community is the answer to the future growth of the providers
17 necessary to fill our work force that is dependent on the many
18 requirements to fill the needs of creating avenues to success.

19 During the last few winters, the activities of
20 development have severely increased usage of the regular
21 services provided by town. The water supply in the town's
22 water tank has had to be refilled within a few months' period.

23 The continuous -- the water tank used to last for a whole year
24 until it needed to be refilled. To remedy it, they thought of
25 using a continuous traffic of a water truck, filling the tank

1 and delivering it to the camp, since they also were out of
2 water.

3 The diesel fuel supply ran out, and how many times
4 this year emergency shipments had to be shipped in with plane
5 loads to provide enough heating oil. The motor gas supply also
6 had to be supplemented with flight supply instead of the
7 trucked amount sustained in the village with the increased
8 demand. The local store is expanding due to the increased
9 services demanded with the hotel that was constructed two years
10 ago, or how many years now, which houses the oil and gas
11 related staffing and construction guests.

12 The facilities at Nuiqsut, just has a clinic, the
13 airport, the cafeteria, the post office, the retail store, the
14 sewage lagoon, and the landfill are services that are and will
15 be used for future related activities. The demand for these
16 services have only increased, but the budget has not. In fact,
17 it has been greatly cut.

18 The North Slope Borough and our previous Mayor of
19 Nuiqsut, Leonard Lampe, worked very hard to try to comment on
20 many of the meetings that have developed over the years on all
21 of this, but it seems like it goes into a unknown barrel
22 because it never shows up as being responsive to our needs or
23 our concerns.

24 Nuiqsut was lucky to get eight new houses built, but
25 there are still many families, at least 20, that need houses.

1 We have single families with -- a family with six children
2 living in a one-bedroom trailer. We have another one living in
3 a shack without adequate flooring, just plywood on the gravel.

4 There are homes in which three generations live in one home.
5 A family of twelve living in a three-bedroom house is one
6 example.

7 There are funding projects that are available with
8 the application process, and the North Slope Borough has been
9 very successful in the recent years in acquiring some of this.

10 But the City has had to donate this land in order to get
11 housing projects because of many -- some of the families are
12 behind in their payments, and that puts us low on the
13 acceptability range because of the indebtedness.

14 Although a hotel is available, many relatives who
15 move into Nuiqsut to work at the oil and gas fields may not use
16 the hotel but stay with close friends or relatives. The hotel
17 is filled to capacity with off-Slope workers. During the
18 construction season in the last year, about 170 construction
19 workers were expected to move to Nuiqsut. In the year 2000,
20 more like 12,000 people were brought in, but it cut down in
21 2001 to about 200 to 600 jobs. When the project is done at
22 Alpine, they estimate only 50 jobs for Nuiqsut residents, with
23 over 200 jobs available at the facility.

24 When this influx was planned, with the dollar signs
25 attached for the project to produce this oil, there was no

1 further assistance given to the community to meet this
2 invasion. The environmental effects are water quality changes;
3 land use conflicts; chemical pollutant releases; oil spills;
4 air quality degradation; alterations of hydrology causing a
5 loss of fish and wildlife; noise pollution; traffic on road,
6 dock, airstrip; sanitation and utilization construction -- and
7 utilizes construction (sic).

8 Mitigation measures must be developed to minimize the
9 pollution and habitat degradation; disturbance to fish and
10 wildlife species; and subsistence uses. Tundra damages to
11 traditional berries, such as salmon, black, and blueberries and
12 other traditional plants used for nutritional and traditional
13 purposes have occurred during the exploratory activities.
14 Plants and berries take years to return to their original state
15 after heavy activity occurring in an area where there is low
16 snow accumulation.

17 Even though there are stipulations placed upon the
18 permitting, not always are the developments occurring when
19 they're supposed to. Most of the ice road development for this
20 season was completed before Nuiqsut was even given
21 opportunities to go to work. When they said that in January,
22 'Okay, we're ready to start working on the ice road,' many of
23 our workers that did go out there to work found the roads
24 three-quarters of the way completed before they even got out
25 there. And we're the closest village, yet there were plane

1 loads of people coming from the Lower 48, lower Alaska, coming
2 up to work already for months prior to our people going to
3 work.

4 Seismic activity leaves trails -- often leaves
5 trails, leaves berms which cause safety hazards for snowmobile
6 riders crossing traditional trails. Often there are incidents
7 occurring in which snowmobile riders have to stop suddenly.
8 And there was an incident in which a rider was thrown over the
9 front of his snowmobile because this berm was hard to see in
10 poor visibility.

11 Because of these oil and gas related events, Inupiat
12 subsistence users do not hunt in areas where people, gasoline,
13 and diesel fumes are present. Our hunters and trappers have
14 been displaced from traditional trails, which has become harder
15 and dangerous due to oil and gas activities and had to be
16 redirected to avoid these traditional hunting areas. Abandoned
17 seismic camp and human waste are present around their abandoned
18 camping areas.

19 Traveling hunters have encountered the seismic lines
20 and have to wonder whether or not they should have crossed
21 these lines. Now they say it's okay to cross them, but our
22 hunters would rather not even enter an area that's being
23 explored. There's so much traffic there, it's not going to
24 provide good hunting until there's been snow blown over the
25 track and the air has been dispersed so the fumes are no longer

1 strong.

2 The community will be and depends upon continued use
3 of subsistence resources because they are culturally and
4 economically significant. The subsistence way of life, with
5 its associated values of sharing food and its influence on the
6 extended family and the traditional knowledge, is considered an
7 integral part of being Inupiat. The subsistence diet is the
8 direct source for the health and well-being of the North Slope
9 Borough residents. Store-bought foods cannot replace fats,
10 oils, and proteins needed to sustain a healthy body in the
11 harsh Arctic climate.

12 Subsistence resources enter into a household income
13 as food resource that does not have to be purchased. The loss
14 of this subsistence resource is not something that can be
15 replaced. It is not something that can be fully described. It
16 will be a loss of income for the entire community if it does
17 happen.

18 Village residents travel to Nuiqsut and participate
19 in employment and, at this level, have some -- and in this way,
20 at some level -- have some level of impact. Increased
21 incidents of community social ills associated with rapid
22 technological and social change cause problems with truancy,
23 vandalism, burglary, child abuse, domestic violence, alcohol
24 and drug abuse, suicide, and primarily the loss of self-esteem.

25 This has materialized during transient employment cycles.

1 The influx of construction workers bring their own
2 problems to a village impacted by oil development activities
3 already. Historically, from past experience, we know that the
4 incidents of alcohol and drug use increase dramatically. The
5 North Slope Borough does not have the capability of hiring more
6 police and emergency service personnel for the village of
7 Nuiqsut, which has already been impacted by the Alpine field
8 alone, let alone all of these other developments that are still
9 bringing further impacts. Drug and alcohol use is the root of
10 most emergency calls in the village, and thus will increase
11 significantly during the boom/bust cycle of oil development
12 activities.

13 As the development moves away from the community, so
14 does the hope. But the reality is, the people that need to go
15 to work in these fields are barred because they cannot get the
16 training and the certifications needed prior to even being
17 employed in these work fields. But people brought up from
18 anywhere else, they get trained when they get to Prudhoe Bay.
19 We don't have that option. We have to get trained before we
20 can even get to the fields. Our people were waiting here in
21 Nuiqsut for the training programs to get here this ice road
22 season. Many of them didn't get out on the road until much of
23 the work was already done. They were given the less desirable
24 jobs of working the night shift.

25 Employment is limited in the North Slope. The North

1 Slope Borough, the school, and the stores and the corporations
2 provide the major year-around employment. Employment is at its
3 highest during the winter construction season. Trapping and
4 craft-making has provided some of the earnable income for our
5 residents. Caribou, bowhead whales, beluga whales, seals,
6 moose, and fish are staples of the diet.

7 It is expected that all North Slope communities will
8 provide some labor needs once projects are proposed, approved,
9 and developed. A very large project, coupled with an effective
10 local hire initiative, could draw labor away from the local
11 government positions of the North Slope Borough and village
12 government. However, there are also concerns about the
13 availability of local employment due to the lack of training
14 for the new skills involved with the oil and gas activities.
15 Life, health, and safety positions may be left inoperable due
16 to the draw of these same people with their training currently
17 being drawn into higher-paying positions in the oil and gas
18 fields. Day-to-day operations may be inhibited during
19 construction as well as after due to attrition.

20 Our community lost our fire chief of 15 years to the
21 oil development projects, and we also lost our health aide of
22 14 years. We are now in the process of training people for
23 these positions, but the local pool of applicants have been
24 limited. Compounding the above problems, the employment rate
25 has dropped severely due to the cutbacks in the North Slope

1 Borough budget. The work force has difficulty getting training
2 required by the oil industry, and a very low percentage of
3 workers from Nuiqsut are currently employed at Prudhoe Bay and
4 Kuparuk.

5 The community finances are impacted -- are affected
6 by the impact, will not be fully evaluated until all of the
7 impacts are here. Funds needed to provide the fundamental
8 services of Nuiqsut, needed for the impending impacted
9 activities, is not following the impacts of the developments.
10 The North Slope Borough has reached its bonding capacity and
11 will not be able to provide funding for our requests. When the
12 oil field jobs are available, they are often taken by
13 outsiders.

14 The only major long-term opportunity identified by
15 local economic growth is exploration and development, and our
16 corporation has no alternative but to look at this for a means
17 of developing their economic growth. This is a reality for the
18 corporation who is working to build a profit for the village.
19 It's not what all of our shareholders want, but it's an avenue
20 that our corporation must look at with the limitations that are
21 placed upon them.

22 While an increasing number of jobs available increase
23 with development, they often attract transient workers who, due
24 to previous experience, are given preference for these jobs.
25 The State funding for State revenue-sharing and safe

1 communities has been dramatically cut over the last five years,
2 and the City Office would have shut, to being open only one or
3 two hours a day if we had not got some impact funds related to
4 NPRA.

5 Although statistics are not generally available, all
6 social service agencies involved with Nuiqsut report problems
7 of alcohol, drug abuse, domestic violence, violent crimes
8 getting worse each year with increased development. With the
9 limited-wage economy, the utilization of subsistence resources
10 is a major aspect of each village's economic structure.
11 Throughout the era of oil development in the Arctic, local
12 residents have expressed concern that the integrity of the
13 Inupiat culture, with its basis in subsistence use, is
14 threatened. This issue is still the primary concern for the
15 future activity.

16 I think there was a lot of people that had talked
17 about subsistence and whaling, so I'm not going to go on into
18 them again. A village elder stated that a family of five needs
19 about 1,000 miles of subsistence area to feeds its family
20 adequately for one year. This takes into account unsuccessful
21 hunts in different seasons available for subsistence uses.
22 This can be multiplied ten-fold now with the increased attempts
23 to harvest with being unsuccessful now occurring to our
24 residents.

25 I have heard many times, especially this last year,

1 of hunters going out every day during our high subsistence
2 harvests, July, maybe August, of not harvesting one caribou for
3 their family. If we're not able to harvest and prepare our
4 food during the season when it's readily available, it's not
5 going to be in our ice cellars during the long, dark months of
6 the winter.

7 One of the biggest issues that affects our community
8 is the loss of control. In addition to the loss of subsistence
9 opportunities, the major severe impacts result from the
10 petroleum development in other areas of the Arctic. It is the
11 lack of control over these events experienced by the village.
12 Nuiqsut residents state they are the last to find out what's
13 happening to them.

14 They are never asked or generally considered about
15 the pattern or course of the industry's development. They are
16 merely informed after major decisions are in place. They would
17 not spend the money making these studies if they were not
18 planning to develop them. So it's a moot issue, after the
19 fact. You're coming for the meeting, but you're already
20 spending the money because you know this project is happening.

21 This perception causes enormous social stress and
22 tension. It is reflected in the increased community social
23 ills, such as the alcoholism, the domestic violence, and the
24 drug abuse. Thus, existing and potential activities further
25 exacerbate and destabilize stress and tension resulting from

1 almost 20 years of petroleum activities in the region.

2 And since development would complete the pattern
3 surrounding our traditional whaling site, it poses the most
4 significant and long-term adverse social and cultural impacts
5 of all the development of the North Slope, the potential for
6 permanent reduction and/or loss of subsistence reserves, and
7 thus, the viability of the Inupiat way of life.

8 My friend, Dora Nukapigak, brought in this concern.
9 She's worked at the whaling station that is used as a
10 communication point for the whalers during the times of
11 development.

12 (Off record)

13 (Tape Change - Tape No. 3 of 3)

14 (On record)

15 BY MS. AHTUANARUK (Resuming):

16 Dora Nukapigak stated that in the past, when they
17 allowed seismic activities to occur during whaling, whalers
18 were forced to go anywhere from 5 to 30 miles away from Cross
19 Island. Many of the whales were being sighted 12 to 30 miles
20 north of Cross Island. There was a whaler who did succeed that
21 year they were having seismic activity, but it took them 12 to
22 14 hours to bring the whale home. The meat spoiled, and it was
23 lost to harvest. The muktuk was saved, but it was tainted by
24 what we call ovtianuk (ph). It's not pre- -- it's not what we
25 desire, but it's still usable. We used it. This would not be

1 so if it were tainted by an oil spill. It would not be usable.

2 As well as the land where we have traditionally
3 brought our whales up to harvest, to cut and store until we
4 bring it to the village, if that area is damaged, we cannot
5 bring our whales up there for who knows how long. And we would
6 not attempt, because we do not harvest if it will be spoiled.

7 When they had seismic at Oliktok during whaling, it
8 forced the whales way off the island. But the year after, when
9 they stopped the seismic activity, they spotted whales one mile
10 off the island. Seismic activities with abandoned cable lines,
11 metal parts, and other debris that ends up in the ocean leads
12 to hazards to our whalers. There's been problems with the old
13 sandbags that they used to use to create the islands, of
14 getting into the props. You can't see them; they're black just
15 like the water, and they get into the prop and have damaged
16 outboards as well as caused troubles with people trying to get
17 there.

18 A lot of the jobs, from her experience, that were
19 posed in your discussion about -- from BP, are posted in
20 Prudhoe Bay's offices, but they're not posted here in Nuiqsut.

21 How can we even consider these jobs if we're not informed?
22 There is good advertisement in many of the employment areas
23 around Prudhoe Bay. Nuiqsut's the closest place to get our
24 employment resources of our people, but yet there's no
25 advertisements here.

1 These are just some of the comments that we have made
2 in some of the meetings. There are many comments that are
3 compiled in many of the -- all the EIS's that have been posed
4 with all of the many meetings that have come through our
5 community. Those comments should be reiterated and included in
6 these comment -- in these statements that you're getting. Go
7 back and research. Those people are not here. Some key people
8 that aren't here to comment, Thomas Napageak, Abe Simmons, Jr.,
9 and -- who's the other one that's not here?

10 TRANSLATOR: Ruth Nukapigak.

11 BY MS. AHTUANARUK (Resuming):

12 Ruth Nukapigak and.....

13 TRANSLATOR: (Indiscernible.)

14 BY MS. AHTUANARUK (Resuming):

15all of these people have been -- and Lloyd Apolaqus (ph)
16 is the one I was thinking about. All of these people have been
17 at many of these meetings, but due to family issues within
18 their own life, they're not here tonight. But I know they
19 would support all of our comments, and they would have added
20 many more.

21 The City has got computers, so I actually have
22 records to draw from. This is the first time. It's because of
23 some of the impact funds we got. We put it into getting some
24 of this equipment. It's just a small piece compared to what
25 the oil companies have to combat us, to prove why they should

1 develop out there, as well as all of the entities throughout
2 the Lower 48 that want this energy, as well as the overseas
3 entities that want this energy. We're not getting very much
4 from all of this development.

5 Yes, we have a tremendous school. Yes, we have a
6 tremendous clinic. Yes, the Borough has had jobs that were
7 sustaining our village over the year-around. But many of you
8 that have come here have had jobs for many years in relation to
9 your background in developing these. Not very many people in
10 this room have had jobs year-around in relation to the
11 developments here.

12 We're going to continue to comment. We're going to
13 continue to state our concerns. But our youth don't even come
14 to these meetings because their parents, before they were even
15 conceived, have been coming to these meetings, and look at
16 Nuiqsut now. There's almost pipeline all the way around us.
17 When these other developments behind Nuiqsut get up, where are
18 we to hunt?

19 Within my previous life as a health aide, I saw a lot
20 of the bad. The incidence of asthma has greatly increased.
21 When I first started as a health aide, I had one patient who
22 was an asthmatic. Before I left my job as a health aide, there
23 were upwards of 60 people affected with breathing disorders in
24 this town (crying). As you can see, it causes me great pain to
25 not be working there. But in all the years I worked there, the

1 problems continued to get worse, and I had no support. People
2 would try to be supportive. Leonard was my right-hand man.
3 Without Leonard, I would have never made it. Without Abe
4 Simmons, I would have never made it.

5 Abe used to drive heavy equipment, and when he would
6 come in on coffee break, he would support us. He would come in
7 and say, 'You guys are doing a good job. I know you had a bad
8 day today. I know you had to be up late last night, but I'm
9 glad you're here. I'm up here clearing the road so your
10 patients can get here. And I'm glad you're here to open these
11 doors and see our patients. You're providing a resource that
12 we home-grew.'

13 Unfortunately, the view of the entities that
14 supervise the health aide program have changed. They don't
15 want the health aides to open the doors like we would to
16 provide for the needs of our people. You can't just open the
17 doors with an ambulance call and be on call. That's not being
18 on call when you're a community health aide.

19 You have to be there for the mothers when their
20 children are running a fever and the store is closed and they
21 cannot get the Tylenol. You have to be there for them. You
22 have to be there for the elders when they're having chest pain
23 and they need evaluation and treatment. You have to be there
24 for our workers who get injured in their ways of working, and
25 they need some remedies to their body aches that happen there.

1 You have to be there for the hunters that are out there trying
2 to hurry up and harvest in the short times they're there,
3 thereby damaging their bodies so they can get back in time to
4 go punch in for work the next day or when they have to go to
5 work.

6 These are all things that have to be met. But the
7 budget cuts are changing the view. They only want us to open
8 the door for emergencies. I could not do that. I know that
9 when there are many flares burning in Prudhoe Bay, I would be
10 up many times responding to people with breathing difficulties.

11 I have seen increases to thyroid disorders, breast cancers,
12 and many other health disorders that are related to stresses
13 and ills from the social problems that come along with
14 development. I hate to see those, and yet their response was
15 to send short-term people in and out. That's their response,
16 having a counselor come in for a few minutes.

17 We lost many of our responders to emergencies because
18 of the tragedy of the plane crash out there. Our emergency
19 personnel had to go up there and do what they could. This
20 time, they were able to help some of the people out there. But
21 the scars, with the memories, have kept them from responding
22 now. We tried very hard to try to communicate, debrief, with
23 them, but they know we're also still trying to work with some
24 of the people that lost family out there or that have
25 tremendous guilt because they couldn't save everyone out there,

1 or that have tremendous nightmares that they live on a daily
2 basis, and they can't respond.

3 The expertise of these people was many years of
4 experience in responding to local emergencies. But this one
5 tragic event has taken a whole score of people out. This is
6 one of many stresses that happen for our village. We can't
7 stop the country's demand for energy. We can't stop the
8 world's demand for energy. But we are going to continue to
9 comment our concerns.

10 If we didn't have so many people affected in this
11 last weekend, I know there'd be many more people here. In many
12 of our last meetings, we had upwards of 50 people at our
13 community meetings. But people are waiting to hear how some of
14 our elders are, and they've been stressed all weekend waiting
15 to hear. So they're not here tonight. But we all presented
16 what we felt was important, and we're going to continue to
17 attend these meetings and present our concerns over and over as
18 long as we can. There's going to be times when we can no
19 longer be here.

20 Many of the people that used to present are no longer
21 here. We've lost them over the years. But their concerns are
22 still here. The same issues. The threat to our future is not
23 something we can allow to happen. We need to protect our
24 resources to allow us to continue. Thank you.

25 HEARING OFFICER: Rosemary, thank you for a very

1 articulate and thorough testimony. I appreciate your doing
2 that.

3 MS. AHTUANARUK: Thank you.

4 HEARING OFFICER: Anyone else who would like to
5 present some testimony?

6 MR. HELMERICKS: Well, it's always intimidating.....

7 HEARING OFFICER: Mark? Mark, you want to state your
8 name?

9 MR. HELMERICKS: Oh.

10 PUBLIC TESTIMONY OF MR. MARK HELMERICKS

11 For the record, my name is Mark Helmericks. I'm from
12 the old village of Nuiqsut. And it's always intimidating to
13 follow the old and wise, but I think it's even worse to follow
14 the young, the good-looking, and the articulate, which seems to
15 be my slot here tonight.

16 I'm going to agree largely with what's been said
17 tonight, but I'm going to agree by degree. As I sit here
18 tonight, I have a sense of history weighing heavily upon me.
19 The Kisik Community Center was named after my adoptive
20 grandfather, George Woods, and it's hard not to be emotional
21 about this man, who I loved dearly, and took me as a small
22 child on many great adventures. And I think it's also probably
23 illustrative to think about what the old days were like.

24 We hear much testimony about the value of tradition,
25 and that's largely correct, but there was a dark side to the

1 old days as well. We had very little money. We had a lot of
2 sickness. In fact, Kisik, one of his earliest memories he
3 shared with me was snuggling up against his father and
4 wondering why his father wasn't responding, wasn't hugging him,
5 and he learned later that his father was dead. He had died of
6 probably influenza; he doesn't really know. And he was taken
7 from his father, and he never really knew his last name. He
8 just knew himself as Kisik.

9 And later on, some people gave him the -- I think it
10 was some teachers, gave him the last name of Woods. And he
11 moved north, met Nanny Woods, married, and they were residing
12 in the northern Colville Delta when my father canoed down that
13 river in 1947 and settled with the Woods family over at Nigelik
14 (ph), and the Woods taught my family the basics of fishing, and
15 we pioneered the commercial fishery for Koktuk (ph) and
16 Anakolik (ph) on the Colville River. And we also pioneered the
17 commercial fishery for kuniut (ph), too. You can translate
18 that (laugh).

19 TRANSLATOR: Okay. You got it written down?

20 MR. HELMERICKS: No. Go ahead.

21 BY MR. HELMERICKS (Resuming):

22 Kuniut (ph) is a skulpin (ph), and they used to get
23 in the bottom of the nets by the dozens, and as a kid, it was
24 my job to take the kuniut (ph) out.

25 But what's important, I think, here tonight is to

1 realize if we look over at the picture on the wall, we'll see
2 what Nuiqsut looked like in 1973. It was a collection of
3 tents, and it was a collection of courageous people who moved
4 into this area and set out to make a village. If you look
5 around now, we've got one of the finest villages in Alaska.
6 It's well laid out. It's got a good street system, a good
7 utility system, a modern airport. It's growing quickly, and I
8 will make this prediction on the record. I believe Nuiqsut, in
9 one generation, is going to surpass Barrow as the preeminent
10 Inupiat settlement on the North Slope.

11 Now, how did we get here? We got here by a lot of
12 hard work and tradition, but we also got here by the influx of
13 money provided by the oil industry. When I was a boy growing
14 up, the only source of money was trapping white foxes. And I
15 can remember that we worked hard for the title of High Fox, the
16 person who got the most foxes, and I think about 27 was the
17 best I ever did. And they sold for \$12.50 a pelt, and that was
18 the only source of cash that we had. We went out and we dug up
19 driftwood with a sled and a shovel; that was our source of
20 heat.

21 And it was the coming of the oil industry, really,
22 that provided us with the wonderful opportunity that we have
23 today to live and reside in the land of our elders, to enjoy
24 the traditions of subsistence hunting, but yet also have good
25 paying jobs, good health care, and good opportunities for our

1 own children.

2 So my position on Liberty is that it should proceed
3 cautiously and carefully. The testimony that you've heard
4 tonight about the fears of an oil spill, the impact on the sea
5 mammals, this is all correct. But there's another fear out
6 there that hasn't been directly voiced. Perhaps it needs to be
7 brought up. The North Slope Borough is looking at having to
8 cut its budget by \$7 million a year for the next six years. In
9 fact, if you listen in at the Assembly, that they're wringing
10 their hands now over who's going to be laid off, what cutbacks
11 to what programs.

12 Dr. Lohman, your program, as you know, it's the top
13 of one of the things to go. The truth is, is that if we are
14 going to continue to enjoy this combination of tradition and
15 cash income, we have to continue having sound industrial
16 policy.

17 So I haven't read the EIS. I'll have to tell you
18 that right now. I was one of the parties that didn't get a
19 copy. It's probably through no fault of your own. I happened
20 to see the announcement in the newspaper and came down tonight.

21 So I agree that we -- by degree, that we need to be
22 very careful, use the best available technology, but the
23 geograph- -- the geological reality is, is that if we're going
24 to continue growing the oil industry or, actually, sustaining
25 the oil industry, we're going to have to start looking

1 offshore. If we're going to look offshore, we're going to have
2 to figure out how to produce oil and gas in the Arctic Ocean in
3 a broken ice condition. And regrettably, there's really no way
4 to learn other than just get out there and do it.

5 There has been a lot of concern raised about the
6 possibility of an oil spill. Very appropriate and real
7 concern. But I think it's important to consider that Alaska
8 has a history of having successfully produced oil in a broken
9 ice environment. And that's Cook Inlet. The Exxon Valdez, of
10 course, that was a tanker run aground by a drunk captain. And
11 I'm sure that BP is not going to run Liberty aground with a
12 drunk captain, and we'll stipulate to that. That'll be a
13 permit stipulation, no drunk captains on the Liberty Island.

14 There's a question I'd like to ask of the North Slope
15 Borough because I have been involved in the oil industry for
16 most of my professional life, and we are challenged and
17 troubled in equal measure by this issue of appropriate response
18 to a spill. At the state of the technology right now, of
19 course, the best response is not to have one. Design and
20 construct a facility so you won't have a spill. But it seems
21 like if we do get oil in broken ice that burning is the best
22 available response that we have right now.

23 And I'm curious if the Borough -- they do this in
24 Canada all the time. I've spent some time up talking to the
25 Canadians, and they look at the Americans, and they're like,

1 'What's the big problem with burning? You get oil and broken
2 ice mixed, you can't get skimmers out there. You can't get
3 booms out there.' You burn. What else do you do -- besides
4 wring your hands?

5 That seems to fall on deaf ears over here, and I'm
6 curious what the Borough's position is on endorsing burning as
7 an appropriate emergency response in a broken ice situation.

8 HEARING OFFICER: Tom?

9 MR. LOHMAN: Well, it's one of the tools at the
10 disposal of Alaska Clean Seas. It's been considered and
11 endorsed by the Alaska Regional Response Team. It seems to be
12 the response method of choice now for broken ice. And a lot of
13 the documents produced by industry talk about the pooling
14 effect of broken ice, actually enhancing the ability to burn.
15 And we think -- you know, we endorse using all the tools in
16 your toolbox if you have a spill. We question the ability to
17 burn large quantities of oil at a remote site under broke ice
18 conditions in the dark. We need to see more testing of it.

19 I mean, we endorse using any method you can to get
20 the oil out of the environment, if it ends up in the
21 environment.

22 BY MR. HELMERICKS (Resuming):

23 So collateral to this is something that's not brought
24 up very often is the effectiveness, I believe, of the -- or the
25 volunteer effort associated with the North Slope Fire

1 Department. If you go to any of the villages around here,
2 there is a lot of depth of technical ability with people who
3 are volunteer firemen. It's probably the most significant
4 community outreach or support I think that we have within the
5 North Slope Borough.

6 We've worked hard to try to get people involved in
7 spill response, a number of other programs. Kind of met with
8 lukewarm reaction, but people really support the fire
9 department. And it seems like if we brought the fire
10 department, the North Slope Borough Fire Department, the
11 volunteer firemen in, into some sort of program of being able
12 to respond to a broken ice spill using in-situ burning, that we
13 might have a great combination of insight and local resources
14 with skill, with locally skilled, trained people that are
15 current in the technology with the appropriate type of response
16 to what the situation would demand.

17 And I know this is probably perhaps a little tough
18 within the Borough because their position right now is no
19 offshore. But let's presume that if we do proceed offshore
20 that there could be some opportunities here to minimize -- not
21 completely eliminate -- but minimize what everyone, I think,
22 feels is the most significant risk of this endeavor.

23 I guess perhaps another question. There's no
24 representative of the fire department here (laugh), so -- but
25 has the fire department been -- has such a nexus ever been

1 suggested or talked about within the Borough?

2 MR. LOHMAN: I'm not sure the fire department itself
3 has been brought in directly, but there are these mutual aid
4 drills. The Borough's been active in all of the coordinated
5 spill response efforts. There have been different times in the
6 past when there have been more active village response teams
7 than perhaps there are today. But there's been a linkage
8 between the Borough and the individual communities,
9 particularly the Beaufort communities, with the oil industry to
10 work on village-based response to an incident if one occurs.

11 MR. HELMERICKS: Has there? Okay. Thank you.
12 That's all my comments for tonight. I'd be glad to take any
13 questions.

14 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, Mark. Anybody have
15 questions?

16 TRANSLATOR: I got a question.

17 HEARING OFFICER: Please. Mabel.

18 TRANSLATOR: You said something about wanting to burn
19 that spill on the ice. Right?

20 MR. HELMERICKS: Yes.

21 TRANSLATOR: That still leaves the film, the smell,
22 and the ashes and the soot on the ice. How you going to get
23 rid of that?

24 MR. HELMERICKS: Well, that's an excellent question,
25 and that probably cuts to the heart of the reason why burning

1 is controversial, because it.....

2 TRANSLATOR: That's 'cause smoke just doesn't go up
3 in the air. There's some on the ground that's not.....

4 MR. HELMERICKS: That's right. It doesn't.....

5 TRANSLATOR: And those chemical part is left on the
6 ground when you burn something. The most dangerous part is
7 left on the ground when you burn something. Just the smoke
8 goes just up in the air, but the dangerous part is on the
9 ground. So how do you get rid of that?

10 MR. HELMERICKS: Well, I mean, your point is very
11 well taken, that burning doesn't completely eliminate if
12 you.....

13 TRANSLATOR: That's right, yeah.

14 MR. HELMERICKS: If you go.....

15 TRANSLATOR: These people are wondering how you're
16 going to get the spill out of there.

17 MR. HELMERICKS: It's just to.....

18 TRANSLATOR: But you don't want to leave the most
19 important thing that you want to get rid of there is you don't
20 want to leave that. So how you going to clean that up? That's
21 what the people want to know?

22 MR. HELMERICKS: Yeah, and you're exactly right, that
23 it doesn't completely clean it up. It's just to reduce.

24 TRANSLATOR: Reduce it.

25 MR. HELMERICKS: Reduce it.

1 TRANSLATOR: We don't want it reduced. We want it
2 totally cleaned out of there. That's what these people are
3 wondering about.

4 MR. HELMERICKS: You sound like my.....

5 TRANSLATOR: They don't want it.....

6 MR. HELMERICKS:mom when she told me.....

7 TRANSLATOR: They don't want it partially.....

8 MR. HELMERICKS:to do my room.

9 TRANSLATOR:cleaned. They want it cleaned.
10 That's what you got me interpreting here for. So I'm putting
11 my two cents' worth in there.

12 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, Mabel.

13 MR. HELMERICKS: Thank you.

14 HEARING OFFICER: Any other thoughts or comments?
15 Questions?

16 MR. LAMPE: Can I ask?

17 HEARING OFFICER: Yes. Leonard.

18 MR. LAMPE: You said you're a North Slope resident,
19 Mr. Helmericks?

20 MR. HELMERICKS: Yes.

21 MR. LAMPE: Can I ask you what -- I mean, you are a
22 North Slope resident?

23 MR. HELMERICKS: Yes.

24 MR. LAMPE: All year around?

25 MR. HELMERICKS: Yes. Have my voter card to prove

1 it.

2 MR. LAMPE: Okay. So you don't have a condo in
3 Anchorage like everybody says, and your voting rights in Palmer
4 and all that stuff?

5 MR. HELMERICKS: That's my brother.

6 MR. LAMPE: Oh, okay.

7 MR. HELMERICKS: I've got -- good point. Well, there
8 is Helmericks spread all over the state. My younger brother
9 lives in Palmer. As you correctly point out, my older brother,
10 Jim, lives full-time at old Nuiqsut. I have a half-sister that
11 lives in the upper Chandalar drainage of the Brooks Range. My
12 other half-sister lives in St. Louis. And I reside primarily
13 in Prudhoe Bay these days.

14 HEARING OFFICER: Any other thoughts or ideas?
15 Anyone else who would like to present some testimony?

16 (Translation by Translator)

17 (Comments in Inupiat from male speaker in the audience)

18 TRANSLATOR: Okay. If you get employees from out
19 Lower 48, ask those people not to bring alcohol, any kind of
20 drugs to Alaska and pass them on to the young people around
21 here 'cause the people around here, they are not used to
22 drinking alcohol. They still have to learn how to handle it.
23 That's what he's talking about. But you have to talk to your
24 people not to pass on what they bring, not to bring nothing
25 to -- up here to the -- around this area. He's opposed that

1 much.

2 And you guys said that there would be some jobs for
3 the Natives, and you guys said -- mentioned about making money
4 for the Nuiqsut area people, you know, applying with -- give
5 them some jobs. Let me see it. Let these elders see that
6 happen. Talk about that. Talk to your people not to abuse
7 this country with drugs, alcohol. Ever.

8 (Comments in Inupiat from male speaker in the audience)

9 TRANSLATOR: They are happy that you guys are able to
10 help these people, money-wise, give them jobs. But there are
11 some Natives that doesn't know how to handle the drugs. They
12 do not know how to handle the alcohol. We have lost so many of
13 our loved ones through that drug abuse and alcohol abuse. So
14 watch that. Keep it away from the job site. That would help
15 the Nat- -- young people up here. That's his concern. What
16 that.

17 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you.

18 TRANSLATOR: (Indiscernible) from around here.
19 That's what he wants.

20 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you very much.

21 (Comment in Inupiat from male speaker in the audience)

22 (Laughter)

23 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you for coming. Thank you.
24 Anyone else who would like to present any testimony? I do.....

25 FURTHER PUBLIC TESTIMONY OF MS. ROSEMARY AHTUANARUK

1 I wanted to add about -- you had talked about fishing
2 and if we had been impacted. This is Rosemary Ahtuanaruk
3 again. When there has been offshore activities and causeways
4 were built and islands were built, it does affect our fishing.

5 The sediment affects the way the fish move along the ocean.
6 They go into the rivers, and we harvest them there. But when
7 there's a lot of problems, because like you're pouring gravel
8 in there, it changes everything, and the salinity and all that
9 kind of junk is all affected.

10 We've gone without fishing. We go out there to put
11 our nets, we might get few fish, not enough to sustain. We
12 waste lots of gas still trying to harvest. But when we come to
13 these meetings, they'll say, 'Where? Our project is not
14 affecting your fishing. Our project is not affecting your
15 fishing.' Well, when we have no fish in our ice cellars, it is
16 affecting our lifestyle. And it has been proven over and over,
17 when there are offshore developments, it does affect our
18 fishing.

19 With poor whaling season, without the fish to sustain
20 our population, many people would starve, and there would be
21 lots more problems than there are already. When there is a lot
22 of activities related to development, the social ills are the
23 most. When there's less development, the social ills also go
24 away. The money that thrives on the drug and alcohol goes away
25 with your development. But it follows your development

1 activities.

2 Other communities that are nearby will be affected
3 next. The foothills development, it hasn't even happened, but
4 Anaktuvuk has been suffering the last few years. NPRA is just
5 starting to get developed. Atqasuk has been having problems.
6 Nuiqsut has been having tremendous problems.

7 When our people can feed themselves, they're very
8 happy. They don't care if they don't have a job as long as
9 they're providing for their families, as long as they have the
10 hope in their mind of the possibility to provide for their
11 families. You take away that hope, and you're going to have
12 many, many people that we lose to the ills of social ills. All
13 of those problems.

14 There was one more item, Leonard, we were talking
15 about? I'm blanking on what the other one was. There was the
16 fishing.....

17 MR. LAMPE: (Indiscernible.)

18 MS. AHTUANARUK: What? Oh (laugh). Okay. There was
19 another item, but I'm blanking on what it is.

20 BY MS. AHTUANARUK (Resuming):

21 James has worked very hard in putting together a lot
22 of local information. He's gotten some ratios that show the
23 interaction with the elders to the young, those type of things.
24 They're very, very mind-boggling how much one whaler feeds,
25 let alone all of the welders (sic) -- whalers in unison. It's

1 the same thing as one hunter putting out a fish net. It
2 doesn't feed just Nuiqsut, one family. It may feed ten
3 families plus how many families in other villages because
4 they'll send stuff to them.

5 Anaktuvuk couldn't ask us for caribou this summer
6 because Nuiqsut didn't have caribou to give. Normally, we have
7 competitions where we go try -- travel back and forth, and
8 where we take pride in being able to bring fish to them and
9 they give us caribou in return because the way they process
10 their caribou is a little bit different than the way we process
11 our caribou. And it's prepared in a means that we can take out
12 with us during hunting without having to thaw it out and heat
13 it up and cook it. It's already ready. You can just take it
14 out of your knapsack, even if it's a little frozen, and get
15 nourishment from it.

16 The fish has changed. Our elders have talked about
17 the taste, the quality of their fish. Arctic cisco is a very
18 oily fish, but you cook the fish and they've got a yellowish
19 appearance to the meat that was never there before. Even my
20 fish. I was very appalled.

21 I have acquired the taste of arctic cisco. It was
22 not something I grew up on. My husband was here when the tent
23 city first established. There were many elders that were here
24 before the formal establishment of Nuiqsut. The City has taken
25 on a project to do a oral history and cultural preservation.

1 We've interviewed elders of the area concerning Umiat in the
2 development. One of the strongest concerns that they have
3 brought out is clean up the trash you left behind from all of
4 these other explorations and development before you go open
5 anything further. There's a lot of trash, a lot of barrels.

6 When we try to travel the land to hunt, it causes
7 injuries. It causes damages to our equipment. Even just the
8 water and sewer project, we've got how many snowmachines down
9 because you've got half-buried pipes blown over with snow, and
10 you obstruct them and they damage. Those are big costly
11 machines, but they're a very godsend when we have time frames
12 in trying to hunt. But the damages to them are not the same
13 because of all the obstructions we have to face out there.

14 Tomorrow the City will be giving our presentation on
15 the oil histories. If you could be here for that, it'd be very
16 interesting.

17 HEARING OFFICER: What time and where?

18 MS. AHTUANARUK: It'll be at the school. There is an
19 entourage of about 13 people coming with the agency for
20 Toxicology and Disease Registry, Alaska Native Health Board,
21 Department of Health and Social Services, Army Corps of
22 Engineers, and whoever else comes along with them.

23 But it was very interesting to me. I'm not -- I
24 wasn't here before things started. I was lucky. My mom came
25 into town for the funeral of our respected elder, Abe Simmons,

1 so she was able to help in a lot of the translation, and we
2 worked our tails off trying to transcribe all the information.

3 We've got probably 20 hours of tape, and we'll give a
4 presentation on that.

5 HEARING OFFICER: Do you know what time?

6 MS. AHTUANARUK: The meeting is supposed to start
7 around 5:00 o'clock or so.

8 HEARING OFFICER: Hmm.

9 BY MS. AHTUANARUK (Resuming):

10 I've got some of the information, but it's not
11 something I'm going to share free, willing. The City took this
12 project on ourself. The way we recorded our videos is all
13 in -- primarily in Inupiat. There's some of it that's been
14 done in English, and that's what I'll be sharing in this
15 meeting. But it's not information we're just readily giving
16 out. Theoretically, you've got this information. You did the
17 mess out there, or the people before you did this mess out
18 there.

19 So we'll share some of it, but we did this just
20 because we've lost so many elders, and we don't -- they're not
21 here to give us the information we would have liked. So we --
22 this is something we took on upon ourselves, and it'll be
23 something we'll leave here with our cultural center. It'll be
24 videos we can play on our local cable system that the City's
25 created so that people can see this. But it's for our use.

1 It's done in Inupiat. It's done with just a historical
2 preservation. But it's costing us almost \$7,000 to get all
3 this information together.

4 But it's one of many projects. We've put together a
5 whole list of objectives that we'd like to add onto it. I'm
6 sure that we could develop another 50 hours of tape just from
7 the information we've accumulated. But I don't have the
8 resources to continue doing that, and hopefully, we'll be able
9 to use what we've done to help us gain and get grants to
10 continue with these projects that we've identified.

11 HEARING OFFICER: Okay. Thank you, Rosemary.

12 MS. AHTUANARUK: Thank you.

13 HEARING OFFICER: There is one thing that I can tell
14 you about. You mentioned a number of times about difficulties
15 in getting funds for Nuiqsut. The CARA bill that was passed
16 does have some funds for localities. There's \$100 million
17 nationwide, and that will -- a portion of that will go to
18 Alaska, and 60 percent of Alaska's portion goes to localities.

19 And it relates to localities that are near oil and gas
20 production, offshore oil and gas leasing and production. So
21 there's some, and that's in the federal OCS monies.

22 So I think there's some funds. I can't tell you how
23 much. That should be resolved by about October and disbursed
24 at that time.

25 MR. LOHMAN: But -- sorry. Tom Lohman again. I

1 think the municipalities specified in the CARA bill were only
2 down to the level of boroughs or counties.

3 HEARING OFFICER: Is that what it said? I wasn't
4 sure whether it was localities or whether it's in the.....

5 MR. LOHMAN: Yeah. I'm looking at Fred like he knows
6 more.....

7 MR. KING: I.....

8 MR. LOHMAN: I think it specifies only down to the
9 level of counties. But there's additional money that the State
10 has that is not subject to that limitation on it being only
11 available to counties. And I think that's about \$13 million
12 that's being distributed by the Division of Governmental
13 Coordination.

14 MR. KING: And I think it's NOAA. Am I correct?

15 HEARING OFFICER: Yeah, NOAA, the National Oceanic
16 and Atmospheric Administration is working on the formula, and I
17 believe that states have to provide NOAA with a plan, and then
18 NOAA approves that plan, and then the monies are disbursed.

19 (Pause)

20 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you all. Anyone else? Yes.

21 MR. LAMPE: One more.

22 (Laughter)

23 HEARING OFFICER: Leonard.

24 FURTHER PUBLIC TESTIMONY OF MR. LEONARD LAMPE

25 You have stages on, you know -- my name's Leonard

1 Lampe again for the record. You have stages on near-shore and
2 offshore wells, you know, where workers can and cannot go out
3 on the ice. And I was on the oil field response team, Nuiqsut
4 Oil Spill Response Team, a volunteer group, and we were out
5 there for exercise to clean up a oil spill. We spilled golf
6 balls out there or something. And it was Ice Condition 3 all
7 of a sudden, or something like that. And they said, 'Oop, too
8 dangerous.' 'What do you mean? We're here for an exercise to
9 clean up an oil spill.' 'Nope. Ice condition's 3. Means too
10 dangerous. Nobody's allowed on the ice.' So they canceled the
11 exercise and all that.

12 What if a spill occurs like that? When you're saying
13 it's too dangerous for a man to go out on the ice, are we going
14 to really do that? Because this was supposed to be an exercise
15 like the real thing. The real deal. They told us
16 everything -- alarms, put on our stuff, put on our gear, go
17 outside and do the whole works. Then they said, 'Oop, Stage 3.
18 No men allowed out on the ice. Unstable conditions out
19 there.'

20 If a oil spill occurs, are we going to go through
21 that? It's unsafe for you, spill team, to be out there, so
22 stay in here until the ice conditions are safe? Because the
23 exercise we went through was supposed to be the real deal. And
24 I'm scared, if that was the real deal and they wouldn't allow
25 us out on the ice 'cause the ice conditions, is that going to

1 happen on the real deal, the real thing? If there's a real
2 occurring spill, they're going to say ice stages are too
3 dangerous for you to be out there, nobody's allowed out there?
4 Thanks.

5 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, Leonard. Anyone else
6 have anything?

7 MS. AHTUANARUK: If they could comment on how the
8 spill that was at Prudhoe Bay on DS -- whatever it was. I know
9 they said there was like 224 barrels. And at first, they said
10 it wasn't expected to reach the lakes, but it did, and how that
11 cleanup went, how long did it take on land?

12 HEARING OFFICER: Anybody from BP can make any
13 comment here?

14 MR. FRANKLIN: We both were working Northstar at the
15 time. I can tell you about that one.

16 MS. AHTUANARUK: Yes. That'd be.....

17 HEARING OFFICER: You want to hear about the
18 Northstar?

19 MS. AHTUANARUK: If you can give us a little bit of
20 information.

21 HEARING OFFICER: You want to come up and present
22 that, please?

23 MR. FRANKLIN: I've heard a lot of different things
24 about what happened on the Northstar, that a well blew out.
25 Luke Franklin's the name.

1 HEARING OFFICER: By the way, we're going to have to
2 wrap this up by 2:00 a.m.

3 (Laughter)

4 MR. FRANKLIN: That a well blew out, that it got into
5 the Beaufort. It wasn't. It was a.....

6 (Indiscernible comment)

7 MR. FRANKLIN: It was a mud spill. It was a release
8 of a compound area that we had the drilling muds in, mud and
9 cuttings. It stayed all on the island. Nothing got off of the
10 gravel pad. Nothing got outside on the ice lenses around the
11 pad. DEC responded to the spill. We were able to contain it
12 into a piled area until the ice was thick enough to remove it
13 from the island and take it and inject down the well. Nothing
14 got into the environment at all from that spill.

15 (Pause)

16 MR. FRANKLIN: But as far as the ones at Prudhoe, I
17 read about it in the newspaper like everybody else.

18 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, Luke.

19 MR. KING: We don't have any better information. We
20 know the spills happened, but I haven't seen the reports on the
21 spills to give you any better information.

22 MS. AHTUANARUK: Unfortunately, I think the residents
23 here would have liked to hear that tonight. I'm sorry you all
24 weren't able to provide that.

25 HEARING OFFICER: Well, let me ask this question.

1 Luke, is it possible that a re- -- I imagine a report will be
2 done on each of these spills. Is that correct?

3 MR. FRANKLIN: There will be. Oh, yeah. There's one
4 done on every spill.

5 HEARING OFFICER: Is it possible to get a copy of
6 that report?

7 MR. FRANKLIN: There's a way we can get a summary of
8 the spill sent to the.....

9 HEARING OFFICER: Could I ask you to do that and send
10 it to the Mayor's Office here? Maybe attention Rosemary.

11 MR. FRANKLIN: Will do.

12 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you. Anyone else? Any other
13 questions, comments, observations?

14 (Translation by Translator)

15 MS. AHTUANARUK: One comment also. We had a lot of
16 problems with alcohol and drugs this whole year. We were lucky
17 to get a third officer's position. Unfortunately, our
18 community is also being labeled poorly because of this. A lot
19 of it came through the ice road and through various means. We
20 had a guy hitch a ride on a truck that came in to deliver
21 either diesel or something of the sort that related to the
22 development, who brought in all sorts of drugs and was selling
23 them out of the camp. There was at least three that we know of
24 in the last month. But this is a reality, unfortunately.

25 We -- there are stipulations for your truck drivers

1 not to bring in people that hitch and those kind of things, but
2 it still happens. I'm sure the driver was paid a nice payoff.

3 But unfortunately, our community suffered that and we were
4 labeled as such. It was labeled as a Nuiqsut man in the
5 newspapers. We have to face these bad things as well as the
6 good things, but rarely is the good things ever stated.

7 HEARING OFFICER: Well, I'd like to thank you all for
8 coming, and especially thank you, Mabel, for doing our
9 translation.

10 TRANSLATOR: Translation? Okay.

11 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you.

12 TRANSLATOR: Next time you guys going -- or you're
13 thinking about coming to the meeting, write down what you're
14 going to talk about for the interpreter. It helps the
15 interpreter a lot when you have paperwork to give to the
16 interpreter so she could get an idea of what the meeting's all
17 about.

18 HEARING OFFICER: Okay. Thank you. We'll keep that
19 in mind.

20 TRANSLATOR: And also, it improves the accuracy of
21 what's being translated. As you can see, when you're talking,
22 it's easy to forget details, and without pertinent people
23 paying attention, some details would have been left out. But
24 it's just part of the process, but it is very, very important
25 to have a synopsis of your presentation for the Translator.

1 HEARING OFFICER: Correct. Okay. Good.

2 TRANSLATOR: And if you can get it to the
3 Translator.....

4 HEARING OFFICER: Ahead.

5 TRANSLATOR:at least a week ahead.

6 HEARING OFFICER: It's even better. Okay. Thank
7 you. And thank you all for coming. We appreciate your coming
8 out tonight.

9
10 (Whereupon, the proceedings were adjourned at 11:25 p.m.)

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